

# BOB DOLE



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## DOLE PLEASSED HIGHWAY FUNDING STALEMATE IS ENDING

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole today expressed satisfaction with the congressional resolution of a controversy that had held up the allocation to Kansas of approximately \$14 million in interstate construction funds.

"I am pleased that the Senate and House finally agreed to authorize the so-called interstate cost estimate which authorizes the distribution of federal highway money -- even if it is only for six months. As a result, the money made available for highway projects by the 1982 gas tax will now be allocated to the states in time for this construction season. Although we are still uncertain about the exact amount, Kansas should receive approximately \$14 million," Dole said.

"Last fall the Senate passed legislation approving the interstate cost estimate for two years. Final action on the estimate has been delayed due to objections to "pork barrel" projects that were included. It is fortunate, after the hard work that went into passing the Surface Transportation Assistance Act in 1982 which provides funds for highway work, that those differences were resolved in time to put that money to work this year," Dole said.

"Unfortunately the compromise approved by the Senate today only authorizes expenditures for six months. Therefore we will have to reauthorize interstate construction again this year which will make an additional \$14 million available for Kansas," Dole said.

Funds allocated under the interstate cost estimate are awarded to the states who determine the projects that will be funded.