

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, November 13, 1987

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DOLE APPLAUDS UNION PACIFIC/ PARSONS AGREEMENT

Washington, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan) applauded the agreement reached today between the City of Parsons and the Union Pacific Railroad to reduce the economic impact of the proposed Union Pacific/Katy merger.

According to the agreement, Union Pacific will provide a level of work for railroad maintenance and weigh equipment repair operations that will result in the permanent hiring of 15 employees over a five-year period with a potential for 50 new employees. Additionally, the City of Parsons will receive \$1 million in compensation to help alleviate the impact of the merger.

"Under the circumstances, the City and Union Pacific appear to have reached a beneficial agreement," said Dole. "The railroad's decision to offer Parsons this type of compensation package is unprecedented. Although I regret that we were not able to do more, the officials at Union Pacific have really attempted to cooperate and take our concerns into account."

Dole's major concern has been to work out the best possible arrangement for Parsons, in light of the economic impact of the merger on the community. He went on to say that now is the time to move forward with efforts to attract new businesses and industry to Parsons.