

11/19/2003 Moran Sponsors Federal Highway Bill

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Legislation Includes Significant Funding for Kansas Infrastructure Initiatives

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran today sponsored a comprehensive transportation bill, which authorizes funding for federal highways, public transportation programs and safety initiatives for the next six years. In Kansas, this bill would invest more than \$2.7 billion in transportation programs and is estimated to create 47,500 jobs.

"These are tough economic times in Kansas, making it even more important that we find a way to ensure vital infrastructure projects are not forgotten," Moran said. "From getting products to market and attracting new businesses, to traveling across the state during the holiday season, we must make sure our transportation infrastructure meets the needs of Kansans."

Kansas has the fourth largest number of public roads in the nation, totaling more than 134,500 miles, and ranks third among all states in the number of bridges. The First District alone has more road miles than 29 states in the U.S.

Included in the reauthorization bill are funding initiatives to improve the overall safety of the nation's roads and Interstate System, in addition to upgrading bridges and rail lines across the nation. It is estimated the bill would also create 1.7 million jobs in the transportation sector, nationwide.

Moran was actively involved in Congress' last comprehensive transportation bill that became law in 1998. The legislation

introduced today would increase federal transportation funding to Kansas by over \$700 million, or a 26 percent increase.

"Transportation is vital for the economic welfare of Kansas," Moran said. "As this bill works its way through the legislative process, I will work to ensure Kansas receives the necessary funding to improve and upgrade our state's transportation infrastructure."

Moran is a member of the House Transportation Committee.

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