

8/11/2004 Moran Visits Ulysses Area

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Ulysses - Congressman Jerry Moran traveled to Ulysses and Moscow on Tuesday, August 10. The visits allowed Moran to speak to the Ulysses Rotary Club and participate in a cotton tour designed to raise awareness of the crop.

During the meeting, Moran provided area residents with a Congressional update and fielded questions from the audience. Questions covered topics from the war in Iraq to the challenges facing the rural health care system in Kansas. Rotarians were particularly concerned with keeping qualified medical personnel and the need for tort reform to bring down the cost of medical liability insurance.

"My conversations in Ulysses reflect the concerns that many Kansans share, including the increased terror levels, rising fuel prices and the need for an energy bill and the importance of a solid health care system for Kansans of all ages," Moran said. "Visiting towns like Ulysses is important, as it gives me the opportunity to meet directly with the people I represent and gain a better understanding of the concerns that Kansans and our communities face."

During the cotton tour, Moran observed the complete cotton cycle, beginning in the field and ending in the Northwest Cotton Growers gin. The day concluded with a panel discussion with producers in Moscow, addressing the benefits of cotton as an emerging crop within the state.

"Cotton is one of the fastest growing crops in Kansas, and Moscow is the largest cotton producing region in the state, producing over \$15 million annually," Moran said. "The tour provided an opportunity to highlight the positive benefits that

cotton can have on our agricultural economy and the environment. Cotton uses up to one-third less water than more traditional crops-an important fact to remember as we look for solutions to our declining water resources."

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