



For Immediate Release  
October 3, 2007

Contact: Jenni Terry, 202-225-8490  
Joel DiGrado, 202-224-4623

### **Alexander, Vitter Announce Grant Funding for Pointe Coupee Parish**

**(Washington, D.C.)** – U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander and U.S. Sen. David Vitter today announced that the Hospital Service District No. 1 of Pointe Coupee, LA, Inc. will receive a USDA Rural Development Grant totaling \$372,670. The funding, provided through the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program, will be used for a telemedicine project to enable medical professionals across Pointe Coupee Parish to provide care to rural patients in a timely manner

The project will include a HealthCare professional portal, which will allow for remote access to the current Hospital Information System. The system will allow providers access to CT scans, MRI, ultrasound, and traditional X-ray images.

**“As medical technology becomes more advanced, it is important to ensure that all people have access to top-notch health care, and this project will move Pointe Coupee forward in its efforts to provide citizens in rural areas with quality, timely medical care,”** Alexander said.

**“As our health care system continues to modernize, this federal funding helps advance the medical technology for Pointe Coupee parish to provide greater care for its rural patients,”** said Vitter.