

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

244 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
CAPITOL 4-3121, EXT. 2715

COMMITTEE:
AGRICULTURE

DISTRICT OFFICE:
210 FEDERAL BUILDING
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COUNTIES:
BARBER HODGEMAN RAWLINS
BARTON JEWELL RENO
CHEYENNE KEARNY REPUBLIC
CLARK KINGMAN RICE
CLOUD KIOWA ROOKS
COMANCHE LANE RUSH
DECATUR LINCOLN RUSSELL
EDWARDS LOGAN SALINE
ELLIS MEADE SCOTT
ELLSWORTH MITCHELL SEWARD
FINNEY MORTON SHERMAN
FORD NESS SHERMAN
GOVE NORTON SMITH
GRAHAM OSBORNE STAFFORD
GRANT OTTAWA STANTON
GRAY PAWNEE STEVENS
GREELEY PHILLIPS THOMAS
HAMILTON PRATT TREGO
HARPER WALLACE
HASKELL WICHITA

FOR RELEASE, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1965

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas), announced today that the push for Congressional action dealing with Reapportionment of State Legislatures will begin Wednesday. Dole, a member of the Reapportionment Committee composed of four Democrat and four Republican Congressmen, stated, "The Steering Committee has agreed on presentation of a plan proposing a Constitutional Amendment which would permit one House of a Bicameral legislature to be apportioned on factors other than population.

Steering
Com-

"Briefly, the strategy will be to secure united bi-partisan support for the reapportionment proposal introduced by Democrat Congressman Wright Patman. Patman, senior member of the 23 member Texas delegation introduced reapportionment measures last year and early this year.

"The Steering Committee agreed any reapportionment proposal should include a provision requiring approval by the electorate of a State of a reapportionment plan. The Patman bill will be amended to add this provision.

Dole further stated, "That Congressman Emanuel Celler, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, strongly opposes any action and in all probability will keep the numerous reapportionment measures now pending, bottled up in his Committee. To overcome this tactic, Congressman Patman will file a Discharge Petition on Wednesday and if 218 Members sign it, Celler's Committee will be unable to block House action.

Congressman Dole stated, "Emphasis will be completely non-partisan as there is growing recognition among Democrats and Republicans that the court erred in its ruling last June 15 that both Houses of Bicameral Legislative bodies must be apportioned on a purely mathematical basis. Every member of the Steering Committee agrees the vital issue should not become bogged down in partisan politics. The provision requiring that apportionment plans be approved by the voters leave the opponents of "balanced" representation very little to complain about", Dole concluded.

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Other members of the Steering Committee are:

Congressman John F. Baldwin, Rep. -- California

Congressman Bernard Sisk, Dem. -- California

Congressman Carleton King, Rep. -- New York

Congressman Richard Ichord, Dem. -- Missouri

Congressman Wright Patman Dem. -- Texas

Congressman William McCulloch, Rep. Ohio

Congressman Don Fuqua, Dem. -- Florida