

**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**

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FOR RELEASE, SATURDAY A.M., MARCH 20, 1965

Congressman Bob Dole, (R-Kansas) suggested today in a letter to Senator Everett Dirksen, Senate Republican leader, that the Voting Rights Act of 1965 be amended to include provisions relative to Reapportionment of State legislatures. Congressman Dole is a member of a House "Steering Committee" urging enactment of a Constitutional amendment which would authorize one house of bicameral legislatures to be apportioned on factors other than population.

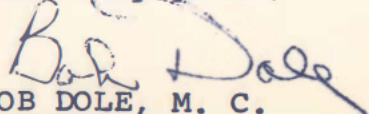
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The text of the letter to Senator Dirksen is as follows:

"While Congress ponders the proposed "Voting Rights Act of 1965" it would seem appropriate and timely to consider adding to the proposal, provisions to protect all Americans from possible consequences of the Supreme Court's decisions of June 15, 1964.

"The Court's legislative reapportionment decisions could perhaps best be remedied in the Senate because of the rule of germaness in the House. While no attempt has been made to devise specific legislative language, perhaps the "Dirksen Amendment" of 1964 could be revised to delay implementation of the Court's decision and hence allow Congress additional time in which to act on (S.J. Res. 2) or a similar proposal. There is not, in my opinion, a more important domestic issue than state legislative reapportionment and it is therefore incumbent upon us to be alert to every opportunity to properly counteract <sup>these</sup> / extraordinary decisions.

"There has been lengthy emotional discussion about legislation to protect and insure the fundamental right to vote. Likewise, many voices have also been raised in an effort to protect the fundamental right of representative government threatened by decisions of the Court. My point is that action in each area is necessary and while legislating to protect and insure voting rights, Congress should act with equal fervor to preserve our system of representative government."

Sincerely yours,

  
BOB DOLE, M. C.