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

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

WASHINGTON, D. C. --- "Announcement by the House Office Building Commission that considerable reductions have been made in plans for remodeling the Cannon House Office Building, resulting in a saving of \$5.5 million, is particularly rewarding news", Congressman Donald Rumsfeld of Illinois (R-13th) said today.

Rumsfeld, who joined with Congressman Bob Dole of Kansas earlier this year to rally 65 Republican Congressmen behind a petition to cut planned remodeling expenditures, said the modified renovation program is a "reasonable compromise" along the lines their petition had suggested.

The revised renovation program was announced last week by House Speaker John McCormack of Massachusetts, chairman of the House Office Building Commission. McCormack indicated the program had been cut from an estimated \$10.7 million to about \$5.2 million.

As a result of this decision, the Cannon Building, first occupied in 1908 as the first office building for the House of Representatives, will undergo renovations which include enlarging Members' office space from 2 rooms to 3, plumbing and air conditioning improvements, correction of fire hazards, cleaning and caulking of exterior stonework, painting, and other improvements.

Rumsfeld pointed out that original remodeling plans in addition to the above changes, had called for lowering of ceilings, new elevators, removal of two nonuseable stairways, installation of new marble base and acoustical ceilings, construction of built-in cabinets and files, installation of a television antenna system, and other "expendable" improvements, including the addition of two bathrooms per suite.

"The revised plan will provide for the essential needs of the House, and the work can be done in half the time", Rumsfeld observed.

"The lower cost is more in line with efforts of the House to hold operating and housing expenses within reasonable limits. It will also make urgently needed space available to House members and committees sooner."

In coordinating the Republican petition which called for cutting remodeling plans, Rumsfeld and Dole obtained the support of almost all GOP Members with offices in the Cannon and Longworth Office Buildings, the buildings under consideration for renovation. Many Congressmen, of course, have moved into the new and widely criticized Rayburn Office Building.

The Rumsfeld-Dole petition, presented to Chairman McCormack in March, asked that "renovation costs be kept to a minimum."

In addition to Speaker McCormack, a Democrat, members of the House Office Building Commission are Congressman Emanuel Celler, D-New York, and Congressman C. Goodell, R-NY.

NOTE: For more complete information, see Rumsfeld Press Release dated March 11, 1965, the letter to Speaker McCormack, and the petition which were enclosed.