

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS
—
243 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
AREA CODE 202
225-2715
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COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
—
DISTRICT OFFICE:
210 FEDERAL BUILDING
WYOMING, KANSAS 67601

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

COUNTIES:		
BARBER	MOOREMAN	RAWLINS
BARTON	JEWELL	RENO
CHEYENNE	KEARNEY	REPUBLIC
CLARK	KINGMAN	RICE
CLOUD	KIOWA	ROCK
COMANCHE	LANE	RUSH
DECATUR	LINCOLN	RUSSELL
EDWARDS	LOGAN	SALINE
ELLIS	MEADE	SCOTT
ELLSWORTH	MITCHELL	SEWARD
FINNEY	MONTGOMERY	SHERIDA
FORD	NEES	SHERMAN
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GRAHAM	OSBORNE	STAFFORD
GRANT	OTTAWA	STANTON
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HARPER		WALLACE
HASKEL		WICHITA

WASHINGTON, D. C.
OCTOBER 3, 1966

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kans) today introduced legislation which would permit the two professional football leagues to combine but would protect high school football by restricting the televising of "pro" games on Friday nights and Saturdays.

Dole said merger of the National and American pro football leagues would "improve competition on the field and assure more and better football games for millions of fans across the country."

High school games would be fully protected under his bill, Dole said. He noted that the legislation would bar televising of pro contests on any Friday night after 6. Pro football also would be blacked out on Saturdays after the second Friday in September, and ending on the second Saturday in December, from any TV station within 75 miles of a regularly scheduled interscholastic or inter-collegiate football game.

Pro football's plan to merge the two leagues is "beclouded by confusion and uncertainty under our antitrust laws," Dole said. He said the antitrust statutes are "inappropriate for professional team sports where teams must get together in leagues and develop coordinated practices."

Dole noted that the Senate last year passed "an excellent and comprehensive" bill to meet this problem but the House has failed to act. There no longer is time during this session of Congress for the House to take up so far-reaching a measure, he said.

Dole said his bill would simply permit the merger of the two leagues to proceed and would leave the larger issues for later consideration. He said the merger plan "might well flounder" in the absence of such legislation.