BOB DOLE
I DISTRICT, KANSAS
IN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
AREA CODE 202
225-2715
COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
ERNMENT OPERATIONS

DISTRICT OFFICE: I FEDERAL BUILDING AT BEND, KANSAS 6

AREA CODE 316

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

COUNTIES:
HODGEMAN
CHEYENNE JEWELL
CLARK KEARNY
CLOUD KIOWA
DECATUR LANE
EDWARDS LINCOLN
ELLIS LOGAN
ELLSWORTH MEADE
FINNEY MITCHELL
FORD MORTON
GOVE NESS
GRAHAM NORTON
GRANT OSBORNE
GRAY
OTTAWA
GREELEY PAWNEE
HAMILTON PHILLIPS
HAMSKELL PRATT

HODGEMAN RAWLINS
JEW ELL REPUBLIC
KEARNY ROOKS
KIOWA RUSH
LANE RUSSELL
LINCOLN SALINE
LOGAN SCOTT
MEADE SEWARD
MITCHELL SHERIDAN
MORTON SHERMAN
NESS SMITH
NORTON STAFFORT
OSBORNE STANTON
OTTAWA STEVENS
PAWNEE THOMAS
PRATT WALLACE

CONGRESSMAN DOLE REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON FOR RELEASE: WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 25, 1967

DOLE SCORES FEDERAL CAMPAIGN FUNDS

The proposed <u>Election Campaigns Financing Act of 1967</u> was approved by the Senate Finance Committee recently, and will undoubtedly arrive in some form in the House for action. The legislation, sponsored by Senator Albert Gore of Tennessee, and was supported in part by the Administration, is one of the most dangerous bills ever seriously considered by the Congress.

In a year when the country faces a possible \$30 billion deficit in the federal budget, this bill would divert over \$54 million in public funds for the use of Presidential, Vice-Presidential, and Senatorial candidates in the 1968 election.

NO SAFEGUARD FOR TAX MONEY

There is no adequate safeguard for the public money in this bill. While the bill does prescribe criminal prosecution for those who abuse the expenditure of federally supplied campaign funds, it has no way of effectively overseeing the expenditure of that money.

POSSIBLE POLITICAL DECLINE

There is a very real danger, however, inherent within this bill, which could destroy the political substance of America as we know it. The <u>Election Campaigns</u>

<u>Financing Act of 1967</u>, while purporting to keep the candidate free from the influence of the wealthy contributors to his campaign, could in practice cause many American citizens --- middle class citizens whose interest in grass-roots politics is the front line defense of freedom --- to lose interest in that grass-roots work. "Why should I work for a candidate," these people could reason, "when the federal government is providing him with all he needs for his campaign."

Clean elections are everyone's goal who has the interest of the United States at heart. But the federal government, going into debt at the rate of more than two billion dollars per month, cannot guarantee clean elections simply by allocating the money for them. This function must be left to the people.

This bill has been properly termed "outrageous," ridiculous," and "an insult to the American Taxpayers."

Whatever laws are enacted regarding the very real problem of adequate campaign financing must be drafted with meticulous care. The Gore proposal would not solve our problems in this area --- but would immeasurably complicate them in my opinion. I am confident the Congress will reject this bill that the Senate Finance Committee has reported.