

NEWS RELEASE!

Bob Dole. President.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FLORIDA STRAW POLL RESULTS INDICATE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION WIDE OPEN, DOLE SAYS

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.), Republican candidate for the presidential nomination, said today that the results of today's straw poll in Florida indicates "that the Republican presidential nomination is wide open."

"If the Florida straw poll proved anything, it is something I've maintained for months: namely, that the race for the Republican presidential nomination is wide open.

"I regret that the press of Senate Finance Committee business kept me from campaigning in Florida before the convention. But I did feel a responsibility to appear before the delegates, since I believe strongly that all those who seek our party's highest honor have an obligation to present their views on important issues, and be prepared to debate their records and their visions for the future.

"Despite our absence from the state, Elizabeth and I were extremely pleased at the warm reception we received, and the friendly and encouraging words of support which came to us, even from delegates pledged in advance to other candidacies.

"I look forward to campaigning vigorously to carry my case to the rank and file Republicans who will cast their votes in the only poll that ultimately counts -- the Florida primary next March 11."

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An authorized committee. Ann McLaughlin, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C.