

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

244 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
CAPITOL 4-3121, EXT. 2715

COMMITTEE:
AGRICULTURE

DISTRICT OFFICE:
210 FEDERAL BUILDING
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67301

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

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For Release - Thursday A. M.
August 19, 1965

Congressman Bob Dole has written Representatives Frank Horton (R-N.Y.), Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. (R-Md.), Abraham J. Multer (D-N.Y.), and Carlton R. Sickles (D-Md.), leaders of a bipartisan effort to secure Home Rule for the District of Columbia during this session of Congress. The text of the letter is as follows:

Dear Colleagues:

I have read with interest of your bipartisan efforts to bring Home Rule legislation to the House floor during this session of Congress.

While many of us have reservations about some of the Home Rule measures now pending in the House District Committee, we strongly believe in local self-determination in government. It, therefore, seems strange that many proponents of Home Rule for the District espouse the "one-man, one-vote" doctrine announced by the U. S. Supreme Court June 15, 1964. This decision strikes at the heart of representative government, since it deprives the several States of the right to determine how their legislatures can best be constituted. It seems inconsistent that anyone could support home rule for the District of Columbia, and at the same time oppose an amendment to permit "home rule" in the several States, allowing the people to decide what factors should be given effect in one house of their legislatures to insure effective, responsive and representative government based on the particular needs of their State.

Many members of Congress are sympathetic with the aims of some who seek to establish so-called Home Rule for the District of Columbia. If those now promoting Home Rule legislation sincerely believe in local representative government, they should support a reapportionment amendment to the Constitution, which would return this basic element of self-determination to the people of the several States.

May we enlist your support on behalf of this most critical issue?

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE, M. C.

BD:jh