

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

243 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
AREA CODE 202
225-2715

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DISTRICT OFFICE:
210 FEDERAL BUILDING
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501

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

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

January 20, 1967

NOT FOR RELEASE UNTIL WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 25, 1967

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kans) stated today that he would introduce legislation Wednesday, January 25, to repeal Title III of Public Law 89-809, the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act of 1966, which was passed on the last day of the 89th Congress as a part of the so-called "Christmas Tree Bill".

Dole said, "The Act was passed by an "adjournment-hungry" 89th Congress and is wholly unsound and unwise and is of doubtful constitutionality. It is so loosely drawn that efforts to put it into operation would be an administrative nightmare. If it should become operative, it could compound the evils that now flow from loose and questionable campaign financing procedures.

"Passed during the adjournment rush, the far-reaching implications of this campaign subsidy bill were not fully grasped. It provides for the payment of up to 60 million dollars in Federal funds to the two major political parties for use by them "in carrying on" a presidential election campaign. There are no restrictions whatever on the purposes for which this money may be spent, no safeguards against corrupt practices. The entire amount could be spent in a few, or even in one state. Moreover, the Parties will continue to be limited only by their ingenuity with respect to the raising and spending of campaign funds from private sources.

"This law simply authorizes a 60 million dollar Federal subsidy for the two major political Parties, for unrestricted use by them in addition to whatever amounts they can otherwise raise, thus commingling taxpayer funds with private political contributions, from whatever source, for whatever purpose, and however questionable. It makes a bad situation worse.

"For the first time, the law will confer upon individual taxpayers the right to dictate how money they pay in taxes shall be spent. This is a potentially dangerous precedent which, if expanded, would undermine the constitutional concept and practice of the appropriation of public funds by the Congress.

"The formula used to identify the Parties and presidential candidates to benefit from the subsidy would, in practical effect, insure that no candidate, other than those of the existing Democratic and Republican Parties, could ever share in it.

"Congress should possibly reverse the unwise action which was taken in haste last October. The first step is the repeal of the unsound measure which was passed. When this has been accomplished, the Congress should consider seriously and enact an effective law which will eliminate improper and excessive influence of money in Federal election campaigns," Dole concluded.