

FROM: THE DOLE FOR SENATE HEADQUARTERS
603 KANSAS AVENUE
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66603
(913) CE30541

FOR RELEASE
PM'S TUESDAY, JULY 30

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 30 -- Congressman Bob Dole, Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate, today urged the House Armed Services Committee to schedule hearings on his draft reform bill (H.R. 18848) "as soon as Congress reconvenes after the Republican and Democrat national conventions."

Dole asked for the hearings in a letter to Mendel Rivers (S.C.), chairman of the House committee.

The Kansas Congressman's eight-point bill would:

- * establish and enforce national standards for occupational deferments;
- * provide explicitly for deferments for all full-time students in good standing at junior and community colleges, and equitable treatment for part-time students in essential fields of study;
- * extend deferments -- but not exemptions -- to students already in graduate school, allowing them to finish their graduate work before entering military service;
- * remove the current prohibition against a lottery in order to open other possible avenues of approach to the selection of inductees;
- * give Congress the power, now held by the President, to suspend student deferments in time of war or national emergency;
- * require that, except in time of war, physical and mental standards for induction through the draft be no lower than those for volunteer enlistment;
- * require that draft quotas be set far enough in advance to permit local boards to give draftees 30 days' notice before induction, and
- * reiterate Congress' statement of intent that military manpower needs should be met as much as possible by volunteers.

"My ideas on draft reform," he said, "will not eradicate all the problems connected with the draft. They represent some urgently needed reforms, however, to inject some justice into a system which is patently unjust."

"Kansas," he added, "has been especially hard hit by the draft since May 1." "Our state, with 1.12 percent of the U.S. population, provided 16.2 percent of the total National Guard and Armed Forces Reserves mobilization in May." The number of Kansans activated for June, July and August is also high, he added.

Dole, who has urged Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director of the Selective Service, to reduce the draft calls in the future for Kansas, recently wrote Defense Secretary Clark Clifford, asking for an explanation of the "initial reasons for mobilization of the Reservists and Guardsmen May 13 and what their future after training may be." -30-