



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE MEETS WITH HEW OFFICIALS ON TOPEKA SCHOOL DISTRICT

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole met today with two officials of HEW's Office of Civil Rights to discuss a possible extension of time for the preparation of a community approved plan of compliance with school desegregation guidelines.

Dole said that Peter Holmes, OCR Director had told him he would consider granting a brief extension to Topeka school district officials so that desired community input to the desegregation effort might be obtained. A meeting between Topeka school and community representatives with Taylor August, Kansas City Regional OCR Director, has been scheduled for Monday. August also attended today's meeting with Dole.

"This Monday meeting," Dole said, "is the logical next step in the process. It will give officials on both sides an opportunity to get down to cases on what each expects of the other." The meeting will permit Topekans to specify the purpose for which an extension is being sought, and the amount of time they feel is needed. OCR can then make its determination as to whether an extension will be granted.

"In no event," said Dole, "will administrative enforcement proceedings be instituted before the meeting takes places, and both sides have made their positions clear."