



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-6521
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: JANET ANDERSON
SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1976

DOLE CALLS FORD FRONT RUNNER: 94th CONGRESS THE LAST OF THE BIG SPENDERS

WILLIAMSBURG, VA.--"Jerry Ford's chances look darn good and are getting better all the time," Senator Bob Dole said this morning in a speech to the Annual Meeting of the Labor Policy Association in Williamsburg, Virginia.

"For those of us who are concerned about making some real changes for the better in government," Dole continued, "that's as it should be. To put it bluntly, among all the candidates running, Jerry Ford is the best man for the job."

Characterizing the Democratic primary race, Dole said there are "actually three different races being conducted to determine the front runner in the liberal, conservative and middle-of-the road factions of the Party." Saying Scoop Jackson and Jimmy Carter are the current front runners of the middle-of-the-road faction, Dole went on to define this as the faction "whose candidate must be sufficiently exciting to keep his followers interested while also not being sufficiently specific on any issue to alienate either the conservative or liberal factions of the Party. The ability to speak without saying anything and to appear to be all things to all people are characteristics of the front runners in the middle-of-the-road faction."

Dole also mentioned a group, outside the factions, which includes Senators Kennedy and Humphrey -- the non-candidates. "A non-candidate is a candidate who is waiting for the factions to deadlock," Dole said defining the last group.

The Kansas Senator said his forecasts for Congressional elections in 1976 are premised on the "idea that the people of America are ready for a little restraint by their government. If this premise is right, then the chances for some significant changes in the Congressional elections are good." Dole said that while he is not predicting the kind of cataclysmic changes that would give Republicans control, he does foresee major changes in the make-up of the Congress, with "the real possibility that the 94th Congress may go down in history as the last of the big spenders."