



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-6521

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1976

CONTACT: JANET ANDERSON

DECISION IS REAGAN'S, SAYS DOLE

WASHINGTON, D.C.--"Only Ronald Reagan should determine the future of his Presidential campaign efforts," Senator Bob Dole said today.

Chiding those who have urged Reagan to drop out, Dole said he believed the Reagan candidacy has been good for the Party and good for President Ford. "I fully expect President Ford to win the nomination, but I also respect the right of Ronald Reagan to chart his own course. Those urging Reagan to drop out should remember that his efforts have focused public attention on Republicans and Republican alternatives, and that his challenge will make President Ford a stronger candidate in November."

Dole, a member of the President Ford Campaign Advisory Committee, said, "A Reagan win in North Carolina is, in my opinion, essential to keep his nomination hopes alive. But even if Reagan loses, the decision on whether or not to continue the campaign should be his."

"Governor Reagan is not a marginal candidate," Dole continued. "He has waged a respectable and hard hitting campaign. He has received 42% of his Party's vote running against an incumbent President. His willingness to continue the campaign against heavy odds should not be downgraded. President Ford will need all the help he can muster in November -- including Reagan and his supporters."