



news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, July 12, 1967

DC - 224
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DEMOCRATS BAR DISCRIMINATION IN DELEGATIONS TO 1968 CONVENTION

WASHINGTON, DC, July 12 -- All delegations to the 1968 Democratic National Convention will have to be "broadly representative of the Democrats of the State," Governor Richard Hughes, Chairman of the Special Equal Rights Committee of the Democratic National Committee, stated today.

At a press conference concluding the Special Committee's meeting here Governor Hughes underscored the phrase in releasing the text of a resolution passed unanimously by the Special Committee. The phrase, and the resolution of which it is a part, will be incorporated into a letter to be sent shortly from Governor Hughes to Democratic Governors, State Chairmen and National Committeemen and Committee-women.

The paragraph reads:

"The Committee interprets its mandate as insuring an equal opportunity to participate in Party affairs for all Democrats of all States regardless of race, color, creed or national origin. While the Committee has agreed that a quota system for delegations is not feasible in practice, it is determined to make certain that all delegations to the 1968 Democratic National Convention are broadly representative of the Democrats of the State. In the event that there should be violation of the 1964 resolution by the Party of any State, this Committee will recommend that the Credentials Committee declare the seats to be vacant and fill those seats with a delegation broadly representative of the Democrats of that State."

The Special Committee, which Governor Hughes called "an instrument of the conscience of the Democratic Party" was established at the request of the 1964 Democratic Convention. Its function is to assist States in meeting the Call for the 1968 Convention.

The Atlantic City Convention laid down the requirement that the 1968 Call stipulate that each State must undertake "to assure that voters in the State, regardless of race, creed or origin, will have the opportunity to participate fully

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