

Hansen to announce for post in early April

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U. S. Rep. George V. Hansen, R-Idaho, said Wednesday he likely will announce his candidacy for re-election in early April.

This likely will be during the Idaho filing period April 1-7, he said.

Hansen said he is now working out the details on the day to announce and also the method.

"I haven't firmed up anything for sure but I will announce this soon," he said in a Post-Register telephone interview.

Hansen noted that the early primary election which was moved to May 27 from the usual August has stepped up campaign plans.

"It now means congressmen have only a year in office before they have to start worrying about campaigning if they have primary opposition," he said. "The early primary has some

benefits in combining with the presidential primary but it also has disadvantages."

Campaign staff

Hansen said he presently is working on his campaign staff for the 1980 elections and will announce the chairmen later.

"I think we will have a good bunch of campaigners," he said.

At present, Jim Jones, who opposed him two years ago, has announced for the Republican primary and Democrat Diane Bilyeu, Pocatello, looms as the general election opponent.

Hansen also said he had not firmed up any plans for reopening his Idaho Falls office. He closed this last year in a dispute with the General Service Administration's regional office at Seattle.

Hansen closed his office in protest against a \$250,000 remodeling of the federal building which he contended is economically unjustifiable.

The first bid submitted was rejected as too high. Hansen also charged there were a number of improper procedures used in the bidding process.

Bids delayed

As a result, the GSA has placed plans for calling for new bids on the back burner but has vowed it plans to call for new bids later.

The GSA said under federal law it is required to remodel federal buildings for use by the handicapped.

The remodel plans for the federal building would entail installation of an elevator to

serve the top floor, plus a ramp.

Hansen said he is considering making adjustments for an office, such as a mobile office or an office at another location

until the dispute with the GSA is settled.

"I still have a couple things cooking with them," he said, referring to the GSA.

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