

Republicans seek to encourage minorities

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BOISE — Idaho Republican Chairman Dennis M. Olsen, Idaho Falls attorney, disclosed at a press conference here

Thursday morning the Republicans will seek to woo minorities for this fall's election campaign.

He announced the formation of subcommittees to foster this

program, asserting "The Republicans are the party that can help this people."

He announced the subcommittee chairmen as Rudolph Wilson, Boise, director of the

Ada County Human Resources Program, who was designated by the Idaho Statesman newspaper as "A Distinguished Citizen", to represent blacks; the Rev. William Moffett, minister

at Kamiah, representing American Indians; Charles Shaffer, Caldwell insurance agent, representing senior citizens; and Frank Sanchez, employed with EG&G, and Frances Arausa, with the home school coordination program, both of Idaho Falls, representing Hispanics.

"This is a bid for the minority vote in Idaho," said Olsen. "We want them to know there is a place for them in the electoral process and particularly in the Republican Party." Olsen contended minorities can be best helped in the long run by individual enterprise and initiative, rather than temporary placing them on a dole.

"We think the Republican philosophy will aid and encourage the individual effort," said Olsen. "The dole oft times fills the belly but improvises the soil."

In answer to a question that the Idaho Legislature had shown little sympathy to help the Aid to Dependent Children program in recent sessions, particularly the special session, Olsen refuted this.

He contended the Republican-controlled Legislature appropriated more money for the last two years than the Democratic governor had requested in his budget messages. He said in 1979 the Legislature appropriated \$1.4 million more and in 1980, the amount was \$100,000 more.

Olsen contended Republicans have been friends of minorities and those in need of help, despite charges to the contrary.

He vowed the Republican Party will underscore this point in the coming political election campaign.