

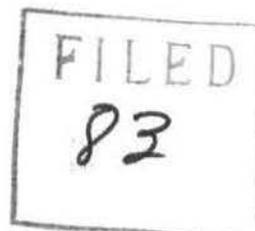
POLITICAL COMMITTEES:
PARTY COMMITTEES:

The county chairman and vice-chairman of counties containing territory in more than one congressional district are not by virtue of holding such offices members of a congressional committee. It is the further opinion of this office that the township and ward committeemen and committeewomen of townships and wards which contain territory in more than one congressional district are, by virtue of such offices, members of the congressional district committee of each district which contains any part of such a ward or township.

OPINION NO. 83

January 15, 1970

Honorable Harold Dickson
State Representative
District No. 121
400 West Russell
California, Missouri 65018



Dear Representative Dickson:

You have inquired whether county chairmen and vice-chairmen and township and ward committeemen and committeewomen from a county which has townships in two separate congressional districts are members of the congressional party committees of either or both districts.

Section 120.810(4), RSMo 1959 (originally enacted L. 1953, p. 734) provides that the congressional committee of a congressional district composed in whole or in part of a part of a city or part of a county shall include as members the ward and township committeemen and committeewomen of wards and townships lying in whole or in part in the part of the city or part of the county in the congressional district.

Section 120.800, RSMo 1959, provides that the chairman and vice-chairman of a county committee shall be members of the congressional district committee of the district of which their county is a part. This provision of Section 120.800, RSMo 1959, (originally enacted L. 1949 p. 2063) antedates Section 120.810(4), RSMo 1959.

We are of the opinion that the later enacted, and more specific Section 120.810(4), must govern in the situation of a county containing territory located in more than one congressional district, and that Section 120.800 has no application to county chairmen and vice-chairmen in counties which contain territory located in more

Honorable Harold Dickson

than one congressional district insofar as congressional district committees are concerned. It is our view that only the county chairman and vice-chairman of counties wholly within a single congressional district become, by virtue of their offices, members of a congressional district committee.

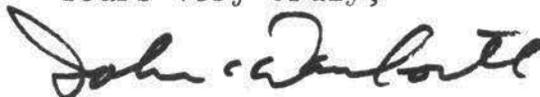
However, by the terms of Section 120.810(4), townships and wards which lie in more than one congressional district would be entitled to representation, via their committeemen and committee-women, on as many congressional district committees as there are congressional districts containing territory in such wards or townships.

CONCLUSION

It is the opinion of this office that the county chairman and vice-chairman of counties containing territory in more than one congressional district are not by virtue of holding such offices members of a congressional committee. It is the further opinion of this office that the township and ward committeemen and committee-women of townships and wards which contain territory in more than one congressional district are, by virtue of such offices, members of the congressional district committee of each district which contains any part of such a ward or township.

The foregoing opinion, which I hereby approve, was prepared by my Assistant, Louren R. Wood.

Yours very truly,



JOHN C. DANFORTH
Attorney General