

Jonathan Bates challenges Weaver

Jonathan Bates, 30, of Eugene has announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination to Congress in the Fourth District.

Bates, a marketing manager for Teleprompter of Oregon, will challenge incumbent Democratic Congressman Jim Weaver, 50, in the primary election. Weaver is seeking his third two-year term in the U.S. House.

In a news conference, Tuesday, Bates said Ron Eachus, administrative assistant for Weaver, told Bates last Oct. 25, "that if I were to run against the incumbent I would suffer the consequences."

Demo submits 4th dist. bid

Bates accused Eachus of inferring that his "job might be in jeopardy and my political career in the Democratic Party would be ruined."

Bates said a few weeks later he received notice that his 1976 tax returns were going to be audited.

Denying the threats, Eachus read a prepared statement from Weaver which said: "Neither I nor any of my staff members have ever or would ever deter him, (Bates)."

The statement said Eachus talked to Bates but "in no way did he do other than to ask him what his future plans were."

Eachus said the statement, "suffer the consequences" was in reference to "being defeated."

Bates said if elected, he would seek to attract new industry into Southwestern Oregon. He said he will work for "jobs, freedom from crime in the streets, affordable health care, a clean environment, quality education and the right to grow old with dignity."

Bates was born in Glendale, Calif. He came to Eugene in 1966 and received a political science degree from the University in 1969.

He was Lane County chairman for the Jimmy Carter presidential campaign in 1976, and chairman of the successful 1976 drive to pass a ballot measure authorizing bonds for a new county jail.

Last year, he chaired the "Oregon School Finance Forum," a series of town hall meetings on financing public education.

He is making his first try for elective office.

Jails receive improvement standards

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's jails should provide each inmate with at least 60 square feet of cell space and should house juveniles and adults in quarters "separated by sight and sound," a professional accreditation commission said Sunday.

The commission, a private group representing the nation's state and local prison administrators, published 382 standards for minimum conditions in the estimated 4,000 local jails and lockups in the country.

Commission spokeswoman Sharon Winkler estimated that "not more than 5 percent could comply fully now." Facilities which comply with the standards may seek commission accreditation, a process that requires an investigation of up to two years.

The standards and the possibility of winning accreditation may help jail administrators and private reform groups persuade local legislatures to spend more money on jail improvements.

More than 100 jails are under court orders to improve conditions, and most of the orders require more space for inmates.

The commission called it essential that jail cells "have at least 60 square feet of floor space, provided inmates spend no more than 10 hours per day locked in" their cells. For those confined for longer periods, there should be at least 70 square feet of space, the commission said.

The basic requirement is half the size of the 10-by-12 foot bedroom common in many family homes and hardly larger than a good-sized bathroom.

Each cell should contain "toilet facilities, wash basin, bunk, desk, shelf, hooks or closet space, and chair or stool," the commission said.

Dormitory-type cells should house no more than 16 inmates with 50 square feet per person, and this type of housing should be phased out, the report continued.

"Recent court decisions have emphasized the importance of housing inmates in single-occupancy cells or rooms," the commission said. "Single occupancy provides inmates privacy and protection and helps reduce tensions among inmates."

Among other standards, the commission recommended that "juvenile housing should be separated by sight and sound from adult housing," and women inmates should have quarters "separated by sight and sound" from the quarters for men.



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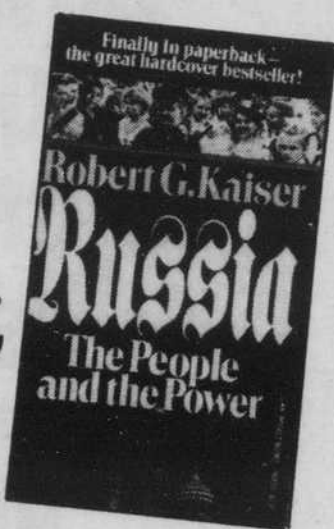
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