

Two Court Cases Ask For Reapportionment

Suits have been filed in both the Alaska Supreme Court and the U.S. District Court in Anchorage to reinstate Gov. Egan's reapportionment of the Alaska State Senate.

The state administration filed an appeal with the Alaska Supreme Court Tuesday asking for reversal of Superior Court Judge James A. von der Heydt's ruling against the reapportionment. The judge ruled that the governor lacked the constitutional authority to reapportion the Senate, and that the legislature or a constitutional convention would have to do the reapportionment. The decision gave Dec. 1, 1967 as the deadline for such reapportionment and left the districts unchanged

until then.

On Monday, William C. Wiggins and Donald E. Smith filed suit in U.S. District Court in Anchorage asking the appointment of a three-judge federal panel to reapportion the Senate, using either Egan's plan or one drawn up on its own initiative. Defendants in the federal court action are the state, Judge von der Heydt, and secretary of state Hugh J. Wade, whose office is charged with holding elections.

Both actions ask for reapportionment in time for this year's elections. Until the question is settled, many candidates are being forced to make two sets of campaign plans to cover either possibility.