G.O.P. GROUP WARNS

OF LOSSES IN HOUSE
NYTIMES
WASHINGTON, Sept. 24 (AP)
— Republicans, already outnumbered 2 to 1 in the House, could lose 25 more seats in next year's elections, a party panel has warned Republican members. members.

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The House Republican Research Committee sounded the alarm, citing columns of statistics from past elections. It denounced, in a fact sheet sent to party members, what it called "smugness that borders on arrogance" and called for "positive initiatives."

The report referred to the Democratic victory last week in New Hampshire, where John A. Durkin defeated former Representative Louis C. Wyman, a Republican, by 27,000 votes in a special Senate election after the contest had ended in a deadlock last November. "They elected a Democratin a state where even the independents outnumber the Democrats" the report said. "The

in a state where even the independents outnumber the Democrats," the report said. "The handwriting is on the wall. Can we read it?"

The 1974 off-year election gave the Democrats a net gain of 43 seats in the House. The party division now is 289 Democrats, 145 Republicans. One vacancy, formerly a Democratic seat, is to be filled by special election in Tennessee.

Republicans hold 51 marginal seats—woo by less than 10 per cent of the vote—the report said, adding that 42 Democratic seats are marginal.

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"If we lose only half of those marginal seats, our power base will shrink to 120," the report said. "If Democrats lose half, their power base will shrink to 268."