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Key GOP Rep. was offered a U.S. job

Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Rep. Henry Smith III, a Republican member of the House Judiciary Committee, says he's discussed a federal job with State Department officials.

But the retiring congressman was quoted by the Buffalo Courier-Express as saying a government job offer would not influence his vote on the impeachment of President Nixon.

(Rep. Smith yesterday was among 11 committee members voting against the first article of impeachment.)

Smith said that while he has not made up his mind on how he will vote, he added, "I think I would vote against anything I've seen so far, and I feel I'll be in the minority."

Smith said he sees no problem at all in talking to government officials about the job, in which he said he would be a liaison between Congress and the United Nations.

The newspaper said Smith discussed the post with John Scali, U.S. ambassador to the U.N.; F. Bradford Morse, undersecretary general of the U.N.; Joseph Sisco, undersecretary of state.