

CALENDAR OF THE CONGRESSIONAL CHALLENGE

STEP ONE - Dec. 4th

Notice of challenge was served on each Congressman from Mississippi by members of the MFDP from each Congressional District. The first public announcement of the Challenge was also made at a Press Conference in Washington D. C.

STEP TWO

The law allows Congressmen to have 30 days to answer the Challenge which brings us up to January 4th.

STEP THREE - Jan. 4th

Congress reconvenes on January 4th and Congressmen are sworn in and seated at this time. Congressmen from other states are being urged to vote not to allow the Mississippi Representatives to be seated until the Challenge has been decided upon, (which probably will be during the summer). Hundreds of people from Mississippi will go to Washington to support and take part in the first step of the MFDP Congressional Challenge, and to urge Congressmen to support the Challenge.

STEP FOUR

Federal law gives the MFDP the right to collect legal testimony in Mississippi for 40 days in support of the Challenge. People of Mississippi who have been denied the right to vote or who have been threatened, beaten or lost a job for attempting to vote, will get a chance to give testimony and tell their story at a public hearing. We can also issue subpoenas and demand statements, under oath, from anyone we wish, including those who have directly prevented people from registering to vote.

STEP FIVE

The Congressmen of Mississippi then have the same right to use 40 days to gather testimony in their behalf.

STEP SIX

Under law the MFDP then has 10 more days to gather additional testimony in Mississippi. We have a chance to show that the evidence of the Mississippi Congressmen was wrong.

STEP SEVEN

Around April 1st— All evidence from both sides is then mailed to the clerk of the House who will print it up.

STEP EIGHT

As soon as we receive printed copies of the evidence we have 30 days to file our final brief.

STEP NINE

It should then be about June 1st. The Congressmen then have 30 days to file their answer to our brief.

STEP TEN

On about July 1st the entire matter is sent to the sub-committee on elections and privileges which decides the whole thing.