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DOLE MORE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT COMPROMISE BUDGET EFFORTS AFTER MEETING WITH PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON -- After a brief meeting with President Reagan today at the White House, Senator Robert Dole (R.-Kan.) said he was more optimistic about the ongoing efforts to reach a budget compromise.

Senator Dole, a key figure in the compromise budget sessions, met with the President immediately after a signing ceremony in the Rose Garden.

"I am encouraged that the President has endorsed our recent efforts to put together a compromise budget package. The President told me that we should 'keep it up' and that it is worth the effort," said Senator Dole.

"President Reagan indicated to me that he is very aware of the compromise effort, that he favors the process and wants it to continue, and that he is following the discussions with interest."

According to Senator Dole, there is a great deal of staff work being done this week, and the budget talks are on target.

"With the endorsement of the process by the President, it is crucial that those of us involved in the bipartisan compromise effort reach an agreement as soon as possible," said the Finance Committee Chairman.