

BOB DOLE



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DOLE: PRESIDENT IS "OUT FRONT AND LEADING THE CHARGE"
ON THE DEFICIT

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, made the following statement on President Reagan's State of the Union message:

I am tremendously pleased with President Reagan's message to the nation. He deserves full credit for taking the lead on the deficit issue: he's out front and leading the charge. I will work to see that he gets the kind of cooperation from Congress needed to get the job done.

President Reagan knows that there is a big job yet to be done, and we in the Senate Finance Committee and a bipartisan majority in Congress are ready to go to work tomorrow on the deficits -- clearly, we are on the offensive.

The President has underscored his resolve to do something about the deficit and his initiative is the first step towards meaningful deficit reduction. In 1982 a bipartisan working group representing Congress and the Administration paved the way for major deficit reductions. President Reagan believes as I do that this approach can work again.

The down payment toward cutting the deficit suggested by the President will build momentum for further deficit reductions, lower interest rates, a more stable recovery, and a more secure future for all Americans. President Reagan's initiative gives us hope that 1984 can be a year of promise, not partisanship.