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NEWS

FROM:

SENATOR FOR KANSAS

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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## CLINTON BUDGET UPDATE

STILL WAITING FOR DETAILS: STILL NO BALANCE TO TAX-HEAVY CLINTON PACKAGE

Washington -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole today made the following remarks on the Senate floor regarding the Clinton budget:

Today marks the twelfth anniversary of President Reagan's first budget -- the fiscal year 1982 budget. It was submitted to Congress on March 10, 1981.

The Senate Budget Committee did not vote to report out that budget resolution until March 19, 1981, and the full Senate did not take up the budget resolution until March 26, 1981.

For all the talk about President Clinton using Ronald Reagan's game plan, there are some huge differences -- in 1981, President Ronald Reagan, Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker, and Budget Committee Chairman Pete Domenici made certain that the full Senate -- Republicans and Democrats -- had a complete and final budget from the President <u>before</u> they were asked to vote on a budget resolution.

Strongarm Tactics by the Democrats

Twelve years later, President Clinton, the distinguished Majority Leader, Senator Mitchell, and the Chairman of the Budget Committee, Senator Sasser, are taking <u>unprecedented</u> steps to do just the opposite. Today, we are told that we must vote <u>before</u> we get to see the President's budget.

In fact, the Senate Budget Committee began marking up the FY 1994 Budget Resolution yesterday. The House Budget Committee begins its mark-up today. Both committees will complete their mark-ups this week. But, let's keep in mind, the President's budget, the one with all the details, all the spending and all the taxing, the one required by law, will not be available until early April.

But, the political rush is on -- pass the Resolution at all costs and forget about the budget. Don't ask any questions. Don't worry about the details. Just vote. Then we are told we have to vote on the President's \$16 billion spending "stimulus" package. The truth is, this "political" stimulus is paid for by waving a magic wand, shouting "emergency" and increasing our record deficit by another \$16 billion.

Something is wrong here. And none of it adds up to anything except more of the same old games the American people are sick and tired of -- smoke and mirrors, empty promises, and bankrupt leadership.

Let me be clear: When it comes to the budget, Republicans will be ready, willing, and able to fulfill our part of the bargain. Give us an opportunity to find out what it is we are being told to vote on, and you can expect Republicans to be at the front of the line on the Senate floor with real spending cuts in hand and real options for real deficit reduction.

A Closer Look at the President's Program

Last week, the Congressional Budget Office released its preliminary analysis of the Clinton economic plan. It seems CBO has the same problem with the Clinton plan that Republicans do. The report says: "because the [President's] April budget is likely to modify or clarify some of the Administration's proposals, CBO's analysis must be viewed as preliminary."