

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, November 9, 1994

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THE ELECTION MESSAGE

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) today issued the following statement:

It's been a historic 24 hours. Congress is under new management. For the first time in 42 years, Republicans have won control of both houses of Congress. And for the first time in 24 years, Republicans control more than half of America's statehouses.

No doubt about it, yesterday the American people sent a powerful message. It was a vote of confidence in Republicans and our ideas to move America forward. And it was a vote of no confidence in this administration's big government, big spending, big tax agenda.

Don't let some of the liberal spin fool you that this was some kind of simple "anti-incumbent" message. If that was the case, how come the only incumbents who were defeated were Democrats? This was a pro-Republican, anti-liberal tidal wave that swept across America.

I spoke with President Clinton today, and I told him that Republicans look forward to working with him when we can. And I also told him that we realize we have a tremendous responsibility, now that we control the Congress. We want to work with the President to answer yesterday's call for change. And we understand that if we don't do a better job than the Democrats have done, the American people will kick us out for a long time again.

I also spoke this morning with Newt Gingrich, and with many of our incoming freshman Senators, House members and Governors. I look forward to working with them over the coming weeks as we, in partnership with the American people, develop our agenda for the 104th Congress. Judging from the message delivered by the American people, you can be certain that under Republican management, Congress will lead by example. You can also count on common-sense Republican efforts to limit government, make America safer, provide tax fairness, fundamentally reform welfare, and fix what's broken with our health care system.

In closing, let me also thank Senator Richard Shelby, America's newest Republican. We welcome him into our party, and look forward to marching forward together to provide opportunity to middle class America.

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