

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, September 27, 1995 Contact: Clarkson Hine (202) 224-5358

CONTRACT WITH AMERICA ANNIVERSARY

STATEMENT OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE

One year ago today--on September 27, 1994--more than 300 Republican candidates for Congress signed a "Contract with America" on the steps of the Capitol. And these candidates told the American people that if they gave control of the House of Representatives to Republicans for the first time in 40 years, then each of the items on the Contract would be brought up for a vote.

President Clinton and many Democrats saw the Contract as a gold mine for their party. They had no agenda of their own, and they tried to scare the American people into thinking that the Contract would take America in the wrong direction.

But the American people knew that it was President Clinton and the liberal Congress who had America pointed in the wrong direction. And they understood that a Republican Congress would work to turn things around. They understood that the Contract with America would put and end to the status quo and to business as usual.

And on this first anniversary of the Contract, I want to congratulate Speaker Gingrich and all House Republicans for what they have accomplished, and for keeping their word to the American people.

For the fact is that during the first 100 days of the 104th Congress, House Republicans brought to a vote all 10 items of the Contract as promised -- and passed all but one, term limits, which 85% of Republicans supported, and 85% of Democrats opposed.

Senate Republicans announced their own agenda during last year's campaign -- much of it similar to the Contract. Many of these items have already passed the Senate -- and more will be on the President's desk before the year ends.

The bottom line is that from reforming Congress to ending welfare as we know it, from strengthening our national defense to our historic plan to balance the budget within seven years, this Congress is keeping our word to the American people.

We have worked harder and accomplished more than any Congress in recent history. And we're not done yet. In the coming months, we will finish our work of balancing the budget, bringing revolutionary reform to welfare, cutting taxes, and saving Medicare from bankruptcy.