Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, December 20, 1995

JOINT STATEMENT OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE & HOUSE SPEAKER NEWT GINGRICH

We spoke with President Clinton at 5:00 today, and agreed to move forward with the budget negotiations. We agreed that White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta would meet at 6:00 pm in the Capitol with Budget Chairmen Pete Domenici and John Kasich. Following that meeting, it was agreed that we would speak again with President Clinton tonight to review any progress made in moving towards a balanced budget.

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Thursday, December 21, 1995

JOINT STATEMENT OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE & HOUSE SPEAKER NEWT GINGRICH

The President, the Speaker, the Senate Majority Leader, and the House and Senate Minority Leaders have agreed to have their respective budget advisors resume their budget discussions, which last took place on December 15, 1995.

The budget advisors will meet today during the afternoon and evening.

A separate staff group will work on a variety of issues, and a bipartisan group of Governors has agreed to meet today to prepare recommendations on the Medicaid issue.

On Friday morning, the President and the five Congressional leaders will meet in order to be briefed by the budget advisors on today's discussions.

Today's schedule is as follows:

11:00 a.m 4:00 p.m.	Staff meets and prepares recommendations on a variety of issues.
Noon - 6:00 p.m.	Governors meet at the headquarters of the National Governors Association at the Hall of the States and prepare recommendations on Medicaid.
1:00 p.m 4:00 p.m.	Budget advisors meet in S-207 in the Capitol and receive presentations on three alternative proposals to balance the budget (Coalition, Daschle/Exon, Chafee/Breaux).
4:00 p.m 9:00 p.m.	Budget advisors receive recommendations from staff on a variety of issues, and Governors present Medicaid recommendations.

The budget advisors are White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, Office of Management & Budget Director Alice Rivlin, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete Domenici, House Budget Committee Chairman John Kasich, Senate Budget Committee Ranking Democrat James Exon, and House Budget Committee Ranking Democrat Martin Sabo.

Governors expected to participate include Lawton Chiles of Florida, John Engler of Michigan, Mike Leavitt of Utah, Bob Miller of Nevada, Roy Romer of Colorado, and Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin.

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