

BOB DOLE  
KANSAS

## United States Senate

OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 15, 1986

TO: Senator Dole

FROM: George Pieler

SUBJECT: Talk to Jaycees seminar on "Wake Up, America!  
Take Action to Reduce Government Waste"

You are scheduled to stop by the seminar in SD-106 between 9:30 and 2:00, Tuesday, September 16. The theme, as stated, is a grass-roots Jaycees efforts to attack the problem of wasteful spending.

Attached are brief talking points on the theme of the seminar, and the latest update on Gramm-Rudman and congressional action to comply with that law.

Attachments

September 15, 1986

JAYCEES SEMINAR ON 'ACTION'  
TO REDUCE GOVERNMENT WASTE  
SEPTEMBER 16, 1986

- o Lately we've had no shortage of ideas on how to cut waste in government. The Grace Commission gave us plenty of ideas, and when I was Chairman of the Finance Committee we actually implemented some of them: \$3 billion worth of savings, the only significant action Congress has taken on the Grace report.
- o In addition, the Reagan Administration has undertaken major management initiatives to cut government waste, and all indications are that progress is being made.
- o But no one disputes the need to cut wasteful spending. Everyone wants to do it. The question is, what tools do we need to really attack the problem of wasteful spending? It's pretty clear that existing procedures haven't done the job.
- o This is true even if you assume we keep the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings law in place. After all, Gramm-Rudman just says you have to reduce the deficit and that spending will be cut across-the-board if all else fails. But that does nothing to target waste, or to hit the programs that have outlived their usefulness. Besides, too many members of Congress are looking for ways to wiggle out of the Gramm-Rudman requirements.
- o So may be we need some stronger weapons in the fight against fiscal follies. That's why I've strongly pushed for the line-item veto: last year we just fell short of cutting off a Senate filibuster on the issue. And for the same reason, we still need a balanced-budget amendment to the Constitution impose the kind of spending discipline that can't be evaded by legislative fiat.