

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 26, 1983

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I want to express my strong support for the reauthorization of General Revenue Sharing contained in the Senate-passed version of H.R. 2780. The annual funding level of \$4.6 billion for the three year reauthorization period will provide over 39,000 jurisdictions with funds they can spend largely as they see fit. This latitude in the use of General Revenue Sharing is in accord with my belief that local governments know their needs best.

The House-passed version of H.R. 2780, while also reauthorizing the legislation for three years, authorizes a funding level of \$5.02 billion annually instead of the \$4.6 billion supported by this Administration. This higher funding level would provide \$1.3 billion more in spending authority over the 1984-1986 period than I requested. I believe an increase of this size is inappropriate in light of the continuing need to restrain Federal spending and promote economic recovery; and I could not approve a bill providing more than \$4.6 billion annually.

I have taken the liberty of sending an identical letter to Chairman Jack Brooks, Majority Leader Baker, and Congressman Frank Horton.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

The Honorable Robert Dole
Chairman
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

9/27-6³⁰ p.m. - cf. furnished to Geo. Pieter