

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 23, 1985

Dear Bob:

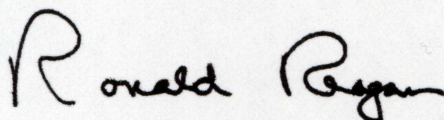
Your efforts at shaping and securing the necessary votes for the deficit reduction plan passed by the Senate are a testament to your leadership of the Senate. Yours was an accomplishment of enormous proportions, and I want to thank you personally for the dedication and tireless energy you devoted to this budget compromise.

With this legislation, halving the projected budget deficits within three years -- without tax increases or a crippling of our national security interests -- we have demonstrated once again our commitment to restoring economic responsibility to the Federal government, a government which should live within its means.

I recognize that passing a budget resolution in the Senate is only the first step in a lengthy process. But I believe without resolute action in the Republican-controlled Senate to produce a deficit reduction plan, our adversaries would have had a political field day, making a mockery of the sound, fiscal discipline necessary if we are to keep our country on a sustained and prosperous economic course.

Thank you again for your dedication and leadership in this most important of objectives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald Reagan". The signature is written in dark ink and is centered on the page.

The Honorable Robert Dole
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510