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Republican National Committee.

George Bush, Chairman

December 17, 1973

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

SENATOR BOB DOLE
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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

Dear Bob:

Much confusion has arisen this year over the fund-raising and financial picture of Republican Party headquarters. All this confusion, and in some cases false information, has been caused by lack of proper information on Republican fund-raising.

As 1973 draws to a close, and as Congress prepares for the end of the year recess, I believe it is important this year for all Party spokesmen to be aware of the sources of funds of the national Party headquarters. As the public demands greater openness in disclosures of Party fund-raising efforts, much has been suggested about political finances in the wake of Watergate and the continuing debate on public financing of campaigns.

Regrettably, much of the discussion prevalent in the press and amongst Party members, is based on unfounded observations and misrepresented facts. I am writing to you, as a spokesman of the Party, about the sources of income of the Party headquarters, in 1973, with the hope that you will use this information in your communications and contacts during the next few weeks.

It is a tribute to our smaller donors program, the Sustaining Membership effort, that the Republican National Committee will end 1973 in the black. In fact, donors to this program -- giving less than \$100 over the course of the year -- will have given 75% of the total income of our Committee. The average contribution is roughly \$22.35.

Those individuals giving \$100 to \$499 represent more than 9% of our total income. This means that nearly 85% of all the funds raised this year came in the form of individual donations of less than \$500.

The spring fund-raising dinner of our \$500 and above contributors to the Finance Committee will provide the remaining funds raised this year.

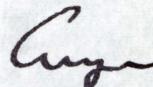
It is important to note that if our Committee were to rely on the larger donor (those contributing \$500 or more) the doors of the Committee would have closed after less than eight weeks of operation. Most important, the donor of less than \$500, and principally those giving an average of \$23.00, will have paid for the operations of the committee for more than 44 weeks of 1973.

The reliance on the support of a broad-based segment of the Republican Party demonstrates once again that the Republican Party is not dominated by the few large givers but rather by the many small donors. Even in a year such as 1973, which has been a difficult one to say the least, the small donor has remained loyal to his Party and to its leadership. So in the future the financial support of the tens of thousands of givers will be in the direction toward which we will again turn our efforts for financial assistance.

There is no replacement for individual participation in the political process, whether it be through knocking on doors, or contributing to the Party, or to the candidate of one's choice. Nothing in our Republican Party can take the place of 203,176 individual donations.

I hope the information contained above will be helpful to you and will give you confidence that the Republican National Committee is conducting its financial affairs as a matter of public trust. The fact that the Republican Party relies on small donors for its support, rather than a few larger givers, is something each and every Party leader and member should be proud.

Sincerely,



George Bush

P.S. If you wish additional information, or would like additional copies of any of the enclosed materials, please call our Finance Office at 484-6720