

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 21, 1976

Dear Bob:

I wish to commend you for your vote on February 19 to sustain my veto of H.R. 5247, the Public Works Employment bill. In taking this firm and courageous stand against a bill with serious deficiencies, you made it possible for consideration of legislation which will address the problems of unemployment and inflation with a reasonable and constructive approach.

As we move in this direction, we must keep in mind one fundamental point. The best and most effective way to create new jobs is to pursue balanced economic policies that encourage the growth of the private sector without risking a new round of inflation. This is the core of my economic policy, and I believe that the steady improvements in the economy over the last half year on both the unemployment and inflation fronts bear witness to its essential wisdom. I will continue this basic approach in dealing with the economy because it is sound and it is working.

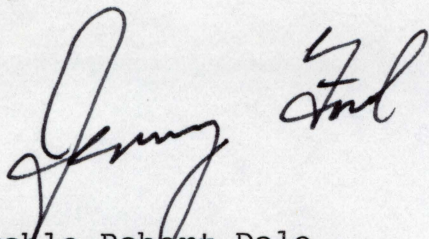
My budget proposals for Fiscal Years 1976 and 1977 seek to provide assistance to those areas of the country which are suffering from exceptionally high rates of unemployment. These proposals do address the difficult task of restraining the pattern of excessive growth in Federal spending. Basic to job creation in the private sector is reducing the ever-increasing demands of the Federal government for funds. Tied to this are my proposed economic policies which are expected to foster the creation of 2 to 2.5 million new private sector jobs in 1976 and more than 2 million additional jobs in 1977. These will be lasting, productive jobs, not temporary jobs payrolled by the American taxpayer.

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I hope the Congress will act quickly on my economic and budget proposals. I am encouraged to know that you share my concept of this basic approach, and that you will be working with me in achieving sound and balanced legislation which will earn the appreciation and gratitude of all Americans.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Dole". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" written in a large, sweeping script and the last name "Dole" in a smaller, more compact script.

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