



*Important letter
file*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

CLAUDE PEPPER

May 11, 1983

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your kind letter of April 26 commending me upon my work on the recent Social Security Commission. Your letter came the day I left to attend an Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference in Helsinki; but, since my return to the office, demands on my time have been such that I have been unable to keep abreast of the large volume of mail which arrived in my absence.

I wish deeply to thank you for your many kind words about my participation on the Commission. Let me in return extend my warmest appreciation to you upon the extraordinary contributions you made to our Commission. We could never have produced the package without your skill and sincerest desire to see that our Commission make a meaningful contribution to the saving of Social Security and without the wholesome influence you exerted upon the Commission. You never lost hope and faith in our accomplishing the immeasurable task of saving Social Security as a sound and solvent institution for the next 75 years.

You were always a courageous co-worker in this great cause.

It was a particular privilege for me to work with you. We all, I think, have helped to create a product of which we can always be proud.

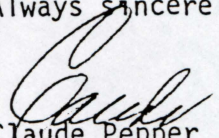
Senator Dole
Page Two

May 11, 1983

I have written the President that I was particularly pleased that he, at the signing ceremony, made it clear that the President and the Congress of the United States (any President and any Congress) was assuring the Nation that Social Security would be sound and solvent for at least 75 years. That is immensely meaningful to the people of this country.

It is always a pleasure, a particular pleasure, Bob, to work with you. Indeed, I will always enjoy working with you.

Always sincerely,



Claude Pepper
Member of Congress

The Honorable Robert Dole
United States Senate
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.



BOB DOLE
UNITED STATES SENATE

April 21, 1983

*Sent from
Pepper Library
11/25/02
Jbb*

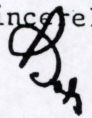
Dear Claude:

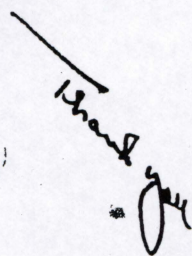
Now that the President has signed the "Social Security Amendments of 1983," I would like to express my gratitude for the part you played in helping to develop this legislation. The diligence and spirit of cooperation you demonstrated as a member of the National Commission on Social Security Reform was in the finest tradition of public service and was vital to reaching a bipartisan consensus.

The agreement embodied in this legislation would not have been possible without your support and constructive participation. Particularly in the final days of the National Commission's existence, when it appeared our efforts were doomed, your willingness to continue to negotiate kept hopes of success alive. You were tireless in your efforts to protect the interests of the elderly and to maintain the goals of the social security system. Yet, when necessary, you were willing to balance those interests with the essential task of achieving a consensus on the solvency of social security.

Thank you for your hard work on this legislation and, indeed, for the many years you have devoted to the social security system. It was a pleasure serving with you on the National Commission.

Sincerely,


BOB DOLE


Honorable Claude Pepper
2239 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515