

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 19, 1984

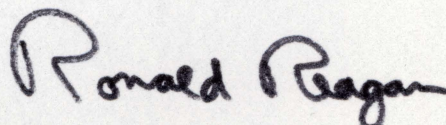
Dear Bob:

Despite many obstacles, we have made encouraging progress over the past several months in our efforts to achieve a meaningful downpayment on deficit reduction. Because of your leadership, the conferees from the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee have reached a substantial measure of agreement on major elements of the deficit reduction package passed by each house.

However, unless we resolve remaining areas of disagreement before the July Fourth recess, our entire effort to achieve a bipartisan consensus on a deficit downpayment may be put in jeopardy. It is especially important that the overall balance of spending cuts and tax loophole measures contemplated in my agreement to the downpayment concept be achieved in the final legislative package. I know that you are working toward that end, and that you are attempting to obtain the appropriate share of spending cuts on those items in your jurisdiction.

I therefore urge that you and your fellow conferees make every effort to conclude your conference as soon as possible. I firmly believe that the most important thing we can do right now to keep the economic recovery on track is to fulfill our pledge to the American people to enact a responsible deficit downpayment at the earliest possible date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Ronald Reagan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "R".

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