



RONALD REAGAN

March 23, 1994

Dear Lew,

You are absolutely right. We can't depend on Congress to discipline itself, as House and Senate leaders have once again demonstrated in rejecting a balanced budget amendment.

You and I came very close to victory for the Tax Limitation/Balanced Budget Amendment in the early years of my administration. But the big-spending leaders of Congress stonewalled us at every turn and refused to pass an amendment that would have ended their reckless spending and deficits.

Lew, it is clear that we must rely on the states to force Congress to act on our amendment. Fortunately, our Nation's Founders gave us the means to amend the Constitution through action of state legislatures, which you have been wisely pursuing. Twenty-nine of the necessary 34 state legislatures have acted. Together we must get the final five state resolutions. That is the only strategy that will work.

I urge everyone who shares our values and goals -- from the grass roots to the executive suite -- to get on board and help you and the National Tax Limitation Committee with the final five state resolutions.

This requires personal effort and financial sacrifice because these state-by-state campaigns are tough and costly. You have persevered in this effort, and now that perseverance is about to pay off. But I know you can't do it alone.

You have the experience and track record to win -- if you have the necessary resources. From the time you worked for me in our



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-2-

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California administration you have remained focused on controlling, disciplining and reducing the size and power of government. You have helped many states do that. Now it's time to discipline Washington through the power of state resolutions.

Unless we act and act quickly, the people in the White House and those running Congress will bankrupt America. The good, honest productive people of America are frightened -- and angry. They must get behind you in this effort. Our opportunity has never been greater.

As I have said before: *If not now, when? If not us, who?*

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

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