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6-24-1974

## President Richard M. Nixon to Dewey F. Bartlett, 24 June 1974

Richard M. Nixon

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 24, 1974

Dear Senator Bartlett:

I welcome your letter of June 19 calling for a balanced budget. Needless to say, I certainly agree with the concern you express.

Over a year ago, when I submitted my budget for the fiscal year now ending, I stated, "The surest way to avoid inflation or higher taxes or both is for Congress to join me in a concerted effort to control Federal spending". That budget set out a series of administrative actions and proposed legislation to achieve necessary expenditure reductions.

I regret that Congress did not support either the actions I took to reserve various program funds or the cost reducing legislation and proposed terminations of wasteful federal programs that were set out in the 1974 budget. On the contrary, Congressional actions since that budget was submitted have added considerably to outlays for 1974 and especially for 1975.

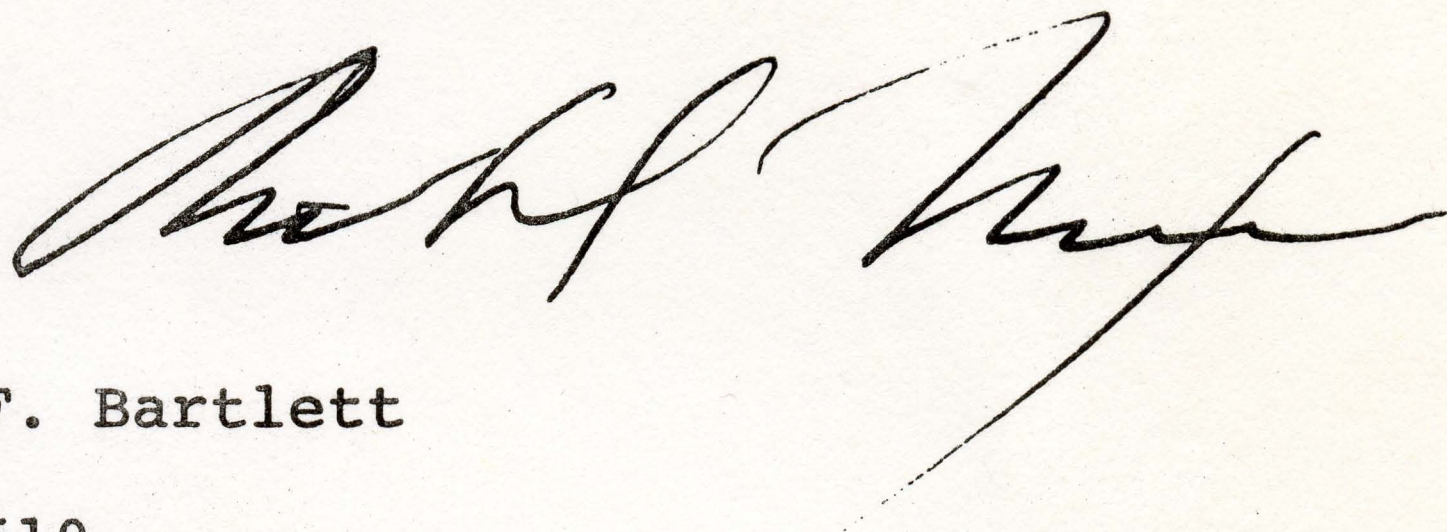
You have asked that I submit proposed changes in programs and funding to meet the objective of a balanced budget for fiscal year 1975. We both know the difficult choices that must be made to restrain expenditures. Having indicated my own thinking in the budget submitted a year and a half ago, it would be my suggestion that the Congress reconsider the specific proposals made in that budget, along with the increased spending actions authorized and appropriated by the Congress since that time.

I would also take this occasion to strongly urge the Congress not to vote tax reductions. Such action would simply create an additional imbalance in the budget.

Finally, with regard to action in the Executive Branch I have instructed the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to do everything within his power to hold down 1975 expenditures, consistent with existing legislation, and to develop a budget for 1976 that will be in balance.

The American people should be encouraged to know that so many of their elected representatives in the Congress are taking a firm line on Government spending. I welcome your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dewey F. Bartlett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

The Honorable Dewey F. Bartlett  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: see attached list

The Honorable Dewey F. Bartlett  
The Honorable Paul J. Fannin  
The Honorable Clifford P. Case  
The Honorable Pete V. Domenici  
The Honorable Jesse A. Helms  
The Honorable Henry Bellmon  
The Honorable James L. Buckley  
The Honorable William Lloyd Scott  
The Honorable Peter H. Dominick  
The Honorable J. Glenn Beall, Jr.  
The Honorable Sam Nunn  
The Honorable Wallace F. Bennett  
The Honorable Lawton Chiles  
The Honorable John Tower  
The Honorable Edward J. Gurney  
The Honorable Strom Thurmond  
The Honorable Robert Dole  
The Honorable Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
The Honorable Charles H. Percy  
The Honorable Robert Taft, Jr.  
The Honorable James B. Allen  
The Honorable Ernest F. Hollings  
The Honorable Jennings Randolph  
The Honorable William Proxmire  
The Honorable Barry Goldwater  
The Honorable Roman L. Hruska  
The Honorable John Sparkman  
The Honorable John L. McClellan  
The Honorable Bill Brock  
The Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Jr.  
The Honorable Walter Huddleston  
The Honorable James O. Eastland  
The Honorable Hugh Scott  
The Honorable J. Bennett Johnston, Jr.  
The Honorable John C. Stennis  
The Honorable William V. Roth, Jr.  
The Honorable Mark O. Hatfield  
The Honorable Edward W. Brooke  
The Honorable Bob Packwood  
The Honorable Herman E. Talmadge  
The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye  
The Honorable Alan Bible  
The Honorable Frank E. Moss

The Honorable William D. Hathaway  
The Honorable Joseph M. Montoya  
The Honorable Howard Metzenbaum  
The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
The Honorable Alan Cranston  
The Honorable Hiram L. Fong  
The Honorable Carl T. Curtis  
The Honorable Quentin N. Burdick  
The Honorable Charles McC. Mathias, Jr.  
The Honorable Norris Cotton  
The Honorable James A. McClure

THE WHITE HOUSE

The Honorable James O. Eastland  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510