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tem. Today's vote is a breakthrough in the fight to give the Government back to the American people.

The stage is now set for passage of campaign finance reform legislation that limits spending, curbs the special interests, and opens up the airwaves to greater competition. Make no mistake: This legislation, while it necessarily contains compromises, will change Washington for the better.

This must be only the first step in our effort to ensure that Washington works for the national interest and not narrow interests. I urge the Senate to pass this legislation tomorrow. I urge the House to act quickly on its own campaign finance reform bill. And I urge the Congress to move forward on lobby disclosure legislation that brings the activities of lobbyists into the sunlight of public scrutiny.

Remarks to Representatives From the Central Arkansas Radiation Therapy Institute and an Exchange With Reporters

June 17, 1993

The President. Hi, kids. Please sit down. I want to welcome you all to the Rose Garden and the White House and thank you for coming. Let me say a special word of thanks to Congressman Thornton for being here with his constituents. Senator Bradford, it's good to see you.

Ladies and gentlemen, it seems like just a couple of days ago when Hillary and I were sitting at Trio's Restaurant in Little Rock, talking with Robin Armstrong about how exciting it would be to have the CARTI kids come to the White House. Well, I think maybe they thought we were kidding, but here we all are.

CARTI is the Central Arkansas Radiation Therapy Institute. It's a not-for-profit, free-standing radiation therapy center which, in my home State, is synonymous with treatment of people with cancer. In its 17 years of service, more than 33,000 people have received treatment there. Today I wanted to especially highlight these young people who are standing behind me. All of them have been fighting difficult battles with great courage and good humor.

I'm proud that my wife and I have long been supporters of CARTI, and our administration was when I was a Governor. In 1977, I addressed the CARTI auxiliary for the first time. And in 1979, in my first term as Governor, our State for the first time supported with State funds radiation therapy, something we continued to do throughout the course of my term as Governor. In 1991, Hillary and I hosted a Celebration of Life picnic at the Arkansas Governor's mansion for more than 1,000 cancer survivors and their families. I'm also proud to say that my mother has received treatment at CARTI and, based on the results, I'd say it's been very good treatment indeed, and I'm very grateful to them.

I'd like now to ask Robin Armstrong to come up here, she's the director of volunteers at CARTI, to introduce you to her kids.

[*At this point, Ms. Armstrong introduced the children, who presented the President with several gifts.*]

Campaign Finance Reform

Q. Mr. President, is the Senate version of campaign finance reform tough enough?

The President. Well, I haven't had a chance to review it entirely, but I think it is a great advance, and I'm elated that the bill is going on to the House. It reduces the influence of special interests; it lowers the costs of campaigns; it at least provides for some public funding to open the airwaves if one side in an election violates the campaign spending limits.

So I think there's some good things about it. And I'm hopeful that the House will take favorable action, and then we can come back with one common bill that will pass both Houses. Yesterday was a great day for the American people in the Congress, and I was encouraged by that.

Space Station

Q. Mr. President, on the space station, sir, if it came to it, would you be prepared to fight for it and even seek cuts in some of your investment programs to save it?

The President. Well, I have a budget program that includes the space station. We've

already cut $4 billion out of it, and I intend to support it. I think it's a very important part of our overall science and technology mission. And if my budget passes, the other investments will be there, too. And if they'll pass all the budget cuts that I've put out there, I think we'll be all right. After all, we've presented 100 budget cuts of more than $100 billion. That's a pretty good clip.

Campaign Finance Reform

Q. The House Speaker is already speaking against your PAC provision in campaign finance. How strong will you fight for that?

The President. I'm going to fight for it hard; I believe in it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:05 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. The exchange portion of this item could not be verified because the tape was incomplete.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With White House Fellows

June 17, 1993

Somalia

Q. Mr. President, are you satisfied with the level of military activity in Somalia, or do we need to add the Marines that are heading that way?

The President. Well, let me just say that for now I think I should say that I've been fully briefed on what has happened to date. I'm encouraged, and I may have more to say about it this evening.

NOTE: The exchange began at 4:40 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

The President's News Conference

June 17, 1993

Somalia

The President. Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. First I want to speak with you about a situation that all of us have followed very closely in the last week, and that is the United Nations action in Somalia.

General Powell reported to me this afternoon that this operation is over and that it was a success. The United Nations, acting with the United States and other nations, has crippled the forces in Mogadishu of warlord Aideed and remains on guard against further provocation. Aideed's forces were responsible for the worst attack on U.N. peacekeepers in three decades. We could not let it go unpunished.

Our objectives were clear: The U.N. sought to preserve the credibility of peacekeeping in Somalia and around the world, to get the food moving again, and to restore security. I want to congratulate the American and the United Nations forces who took part in this operation. In this battle, heroism knew no flag. And in this era, our Nation must and will continue to exert global leadership as we have done this week in Somalia.

Economic Program

Here at home, America is on the move. These past few days have been an impressive and important series of victories for the American people. Congress has taken major steps to limit the influence of special interests and their money in our lawmaking and in our campaigns. Congressional committees have also approved my plan for more college loans for the American people and to enable tens of thousands of them to pay their loans off by community service to their States and Nation. But the most important thing I want to discuss is the progress that is being made, the remarkable progress, on the economic plan.

Last month the House of Representatives passed the plan to reduce the deficit, the first step toward creating jobs and increasing incomes. Yesterday the Senate Finance Committee cleared the way for action by the full Senate. Make no mistake about it, this means that we are putting our economic house in order. Getting the economy back on track depends upon Congress passing this economic plan. It's necessary, it's fair, and it will work.

I propose, indeed I have insisted upon, $500 billion in deficit reduction to be locked away in a deficit reduction trust fund. We