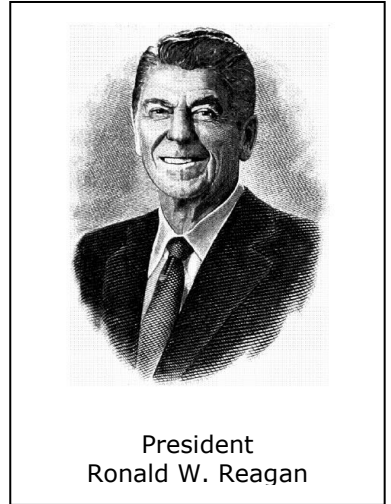


Ninety-Seventh Congress

Jan. 3, 1981-Jan. 3, 1983

First Administration of Ronald W. Reagan

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Historical Background

The 97th Congress began with the inaugurations of President Ronald W. Reagan and Vice President George H. W. Bush. During Reagan’s inaugural address, delivered on January 20, 1981, he blamed “big government” for the economic problems the nation was facing, and he vowed to dramatically cut back the size and functions of the Federal government. Several hours later during Inauguration Day festivities, Reagan received news that the remaining 52 hostages who had been held in Tehran for 444 days had been released, left Iranian airspace, and were on their way back to the United States.

On March 30, 1981, just 69 days into his Presidency, Reagan was leaving the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington D.C. when he was shot by John Hinkley, Jr. The President suffered from heavy internal bleeding but survived. In addition to Reagan, Hinkley shot White House Press Secretary James Brady, Metropolitan Police Officer Thomas Delahanty, and Secret Service Agent Timothy McCarthy.

Throughout 1981, Reagan faced increasing pressure from the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO), the union representing the nation’s air traffic controllers, for better pay and a 32-hour work week. On August 3, 1981, PATCO’s members went on strike and two days later, Reagan fired all the striking air traffic controllers (about 11,000) after it was determined the strike was illegal under the Taft-Hartley Act of 1947. By October 1981, PATCO had been decertified as the union representing the air traffic controllers and the Federal Aviation Administration was working to replace the fired controllers.

House	Senate
Majority Party: Democrat (243 seats)	Majority Party: Republican (53 seats)
Minority Party: Republican (192 seats)	Minority Party: Democrat (46 seats)
Other Parties: None	Other Parties: Independent (1 seat)
Speaker of the House: Thomas P. O’Neill, Jr.	Majority Leader: Howard Baker

At the start of the 97th Congress, the nation was experiencing a crippling economic recession. In an effort to combat the recession, Congress enacted, and Reagan implemented, several pieces of legislation designed to help the economy recover. The Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 encouraged a boom in commercial real estate building projects. In July 1982, Congress approved the Garn–St. Germain Depository Institutions Act of 1982, which further deregulated banks and savings and loans. The Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982, was enacted to reduce the budget gap by creating revenue through the closure of tax loopholes and the introduction of tougher enforcement of tax rules.

Unrelated to the country’s economic problems, Reagan kept a promise he made during the 1980 Presidential campaign. He said if elected he would nominate the first woman to the Supreme Court, and on September 21, 1981 the Senate confirmed Sandra Day O’Conner as the first female Supreme Court Justice.

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War or Peace?

End of the Iranian Hostage Crisis

On January 20, 1981, within hours of Reagan’s inauguration, he was informed that the 52 American hostages who had been held in Tehran, Iran for 444 days, had been released and were on their way to Algeria and then to Rhein-Main Air Base in West Germany, before returning to the United States. President Jimmy Carter had been negotiating for the hostages’ release all the way through his last day in office. At the news of the hostages’ release, Reagan said, "With thanks to Almighty God, I have been given a tag line, the get-off line that everyone wants for the end of a toast or a speech, or anything else. Some 30 minutes ago, the planes bearing our prisoners left Iranian air space, and they’re now free of Iran." There were rumors that Reagan’s campaign staff negotiated with the Iranians urging them to delay the release of the hostages until after the November 1980 presidential election, and Congress launched an investigation. That investigation did not find any “credible evidence” that there was “any attempt or proposal to attempt, by the Reagan Presidential Campaign—or persons representing or associated with the campaign—to delay the release of the American hostages in Iran.”



Senate Majority Leader
Howard H. Baker



Speaker of the House
Thomas ('Tip') Phillip
O'Neill Jr.

During the course of the Iranian hostage crisis, the Carter Administration had ordered a policy review of relations with Iraq and Reagan formally established support for Iraq in their war against Iran. On March 19, 1982, Reagan signed National Security Study Directive 4-82, which outlined policy directives in the Middle East and eventually Iraq was removed from the State Sponsor of Terrorism list. The U.S. provided the Iraqis with economic assistance as well as military training and weapons.

The Reagan Doctrine

President Ronald W. Reagan entered the oval office at the culmination of a long career of anti-communist activism. Reagan served as President of the Screen Actors' Guild (SAG) from 1947-1952 at the height of the postwar hysteria over communist infiltration in various American institutions. As SAG President, Reagan fully supported the work of the House Un-American Activities Committee and even, along with his then-wife Jane Wyman, became a confidential informant for the FBI. From the beginning of his Presidency, Reagan saw his role as ushering the United States to a complete victory over the Soviet Union and an end to the of the Cold War, halting the spread of communism. As a result, a strategy, the so-called "Reagan Doctrine," would guide the administration's foreign policy. Put simply, under the Reagan Doctrine, the U.S. would aim to engage in a foreign policy aimed at overwhelming the Soviet Union and diminish its influence in the world. In practice, the Reagan Doctrine was the logic that saw the U.S. engage in a series of costly and controversial proxy wars in Latin America, Africa, Asia and elsewhere.

The first global hot spot to become the focus of American intentions during the 97th Congress was Afghanistan. The country had been occupied by the Soviet military since Christmas 1979 and was the site of an emergent insurgency bucking against superpower interference. The Carter Administration's support for anti-communist elements in Afghanistan had preceded the Soviet invasion by almost six months. Though it was far from clear at the time that the Soviets would invade Afghanistan, the sense was that it should be U.S. policy to create conditions in the country that, should a Soviet invasion take place, would enmesh them in a hopeless quagmire. When it was initially launched in 1979, Operation Cyclone was endowed with a \$500,000 appropriation during the Carter Administration. When Reagan took office, he immediately seized upon Operation Cyclone as a perfect opportunity to showcase the new administration's foreign policy priorities. The program's budgets grew rapidly and consistently, increasing the initial \$500,000 investment by \$20-30 million per year in 1980 to a peak of \$630 million in 1987. Aside from these infusions of U.S. cash and weaponry, the campaign to support the Afghan mujahideen also relied on the close participation of Saudi Arabia, who pledged to match any funds committed by the U.S. to the Afghan cause. Moreover, the Saudis exploited their extensive network of Islamic charities and wealthy donors to supplement the funds coming from government coffers. At the same time, all military and financial aid were routed through Pakistan, which shares a long

border with Afghanistan and had deep ties to Saudi Arabia and the United States. Operation Cyclone enjoyed broad bipartisan support among lawmakers and voters throughout the history of the program and is credited by many as being instrumental in forcing the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan in 1989 and the ultimate dissolution of the U.S.S.R. two years later.

The next arena in which the Reagan Doctrine would be implemented would not enjoy such seeming unqualified success. On July 17, 1979, Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza Debayle resigned the Presidency and fled to Miami in the midst of a grass roots rebellion orchestrated by the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN). The leftist Sandinistas, led by a five-member Junta of National Reconstruction, entered the capital Managua on July 19 and pledged to work to introduce political pluralism in the country and develop a mixed economy while operating a non-aligned foreign policy. Though the Sandinistas were not Marxists and rather favored a model of social democracy as typified by many western European and Scandinavian countries—indeed, the newly empowered Sandinistas sought economic aid from western European states in order to counter a U.S. embargo and avoid Soviet domination—opposition to the junta mobilized quickly, coalescing around a loosely affiliated network of rebels known as the Contras in 1981. On December 1, 1981, President Reagan issued a presidential finding authorizing covert operations in support of the Contras in Nicaragua, initially in collaboration with Argentina. As with the operation in Afghanistan, an initial, somewhat modest appropriation mushroomed in succeeding years. U.S. support of the Contras would be ramped up in 1982 when President Reagan issued the top secret National Security Decision Directive 17 (NSDD 17), authorizing the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to train and support those in opposition to leftist regimes in Nicaragua and El Salvador. However, reports of abuse, cruelty, and repression on the part of the Contras made the already skeptical Congress even less sympathetic to the program. In December 1982 a supplementary defense appropriations bill was passed by Congress, which included an amendment submitted by Representative Edward P. Boland—the so-called Boland Amendments—which prohibited the use of the funds appropriated by the law from being used by the CIA or Department of Defense for military purposes in Nicaragua.

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Economic Trends and Conditions

'Reaganomics'

Reagan took office with the country facing a deep economic recession. The peak of the recession was in November and December 1982, when the nationwide unemployment rate was 10.8 percent. The Federal funds rate, which was about 11 percent in 1979, rose to 20 percent by June 1981. Beginning in 1982, many savings and loans rapidly shifted away from traditional home mortgage financing and into new, high-risk investment activities such as casinos, fast-food franchises, ski resorts, junk bonds, arbitrage schemes, and derivative instruments. During June 1982, the prime interest rate reached 21.5 percent.

During February 1981, the White House issued a report in which Reagan highlighted his plan to combat the recession by (1) a substantial reduction in the growth of Federal expenditures; (2) a significant reduction in Federal tax rates; (3) prudent relief of Federal regulatory burdens; and (4) a monetary policy on the part of the independent Federal Reserve System which is consistent with those policies. Legislation was passed, which promoted economic growth through reductions in individual income tax rates, expensing of depreciable property, incentives for small businesses, and incentivizing for savings. The effects were across the board tax cuts—top rates fell from 70 percent to 50 percent, and bottom rates dropped from 14 percent to 11 percent. These economic policies would later be referred to as 'Reaganomics.'

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Landmark U.S. Supreme Court Decisions

U.S. v. Will, held that a Congressional act that revoked an earlier law providing automatic annual pay raises to federal employees was in violation of the Compensation Clause, 449 U.S. 200 (1981)

Chandler v. Florida, held that the Constitution does not prohibit a state from experimenting with a program such as is authorized by Florida's Canon 3A (7), which allowed for judicial proceedings to be recorded and televised with electronic media, [449 U.S. 560](#) (1981)

Carter v. Kentucky, held that in refusing a petitioner's request for a jury instruction to the court in place of defense testimony, the trial judge infringed on the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendment rights of the petitioner, [450 U.S. 288](#) (1981)

Michael M. v. Superior Court of Sonoma County, held that the prosecution of petitioner, age 17, under California's statutory rape law for engaging in sexual intercourse with a sixteen year old female, did not violate petitioner's right to equal protection of the law as guaranteed under paragraph 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution where the female can commit no crime under the statute, [450 U.S. 464](#) (1981)

Steagald v. United States, held that the search of an Atlanta residence in connection with a drug crime violated the Fourth Amendment, where it took place in the absence of consent or exigent circumstances, [451 U.S. 204](#) (1981)

Schad v. Borough of Mount Ephraim, held that a municipality may not, without violation of the defendants' federal constitutional guarantees of free speech and expression, due process and equal protection, impose criminal penalties for the violation of its zoning ordinance which ordinance purports to proscribe all forms of live entertainment within the municipality's boundaries, as the appellee failed to justify the exclusion of live entertainment from the broad range of commercial uses permitted in the borough, [452 U.S. 61](#) (1981)

Heffron v. International Society for Krishna Consciousness, held that a state rule at state fairs that restricted the movement of solicitors to their assigned areas was not unduly discriminatory to the petitioner's religious beliefs and did not violate the Constitution, [452 U.S. 640](#) (1981)

Kissinger v. Halperin, held that wiretaps performed without court order were unconstitutional under the Fourth Amendment and that the defendants did not get absolute immunity, [452 U.S. 713](#) (1981)

Haig v. Agee, held that the President, acting through the Secretary of State, has the authority to revoke the passport of an American citizen whose international travel activities have caused and will continue to cause serious damage to the national security and foreign policy of the United States, [453 U.S. 280](#) (1981)

Metromedia, Inc. v. City of San Diego, held that the City of San Diego could not eliminate and totally prohibit all outdoor advertising within the City, as this is in violation of the First and Fourteenth amendments' rights to free speech, [453 U.S. 490](#) (1981)

Rostker v. Goldberg, held that women were exempt from having to register with the Selective Service System, [453 U.S. 57](#) (1981)

Commonwealth Edison Co. v. Montana, held that that Montana severance tax, which taxed coal destined for immediate export to other states without limit as to amount, does not violate the Commerce Clause or the Supremacy Clause, [453 U.S. 609](#) (1981)

Dames & Moore v. Regan, held that the President has statutory or inherent constitutional authority to settle legally enforceable claims of American citizens against foreign states, agencies, and controlled entities pending in United States courts and nullify judgments of United States courts adjudicating such claims under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, [453 U.S. 654](#) (1981)

United States v. Ross, held that police can conduct a warrantless search of an automobile that has been legitimately pulled over if there is probable cause the vehicle contains contraband, [456 U.S. 798](#) (1982)

Widmar v. Vincent, held that the banning of voluntary religious group meetings from university buildings and grounds when worship or teaching religion took place was in violation of the First and Fourteenth Amendments, [454 U.S. 263](#) (1981)

Cabell v. Chavez-Salido, held that a law keeping aliens from being considered for positions as probation officers was within constitutional bounds of the Equal Protection Clause, [454 U.S. 432](#) (1982)

Railway Labor Executives' Assn. v. Gibbons, held that a law requiring a railroad company to pay employees labor protection at the time of their closing was a proper exercise of Congress' power under the Bankruptcy Clause, [455 U.S. 457](#) (1982)

Santosky v. Kramer, reversed the decision of the lower court and held that states determined to revoke parental rights must provide clear evidence of ongoing neglect, stating that preponderance of evidence was not sufficient, [455 U.S. 745](#) (1982)

Larson v. Valente, held that the Minnesota Charitable Solicitation Act, which required religious organizations to report their nonmember funding, was in violation of the Establishment Clause, [456 U.S. 228](#) (1982)

Plyler v. Doe, held that withholding state funds from schools who educated illegal aliens was a violation of the Equal Protection Clause, [457 U.S. 202](#) (1982)

Youngberg v. Romeo, held that those individuals who are involuntarily committed to mental health facilities have the rights to safe confinement and freedom from bodily restraint under the Fourteenth Amendment, [457 U.S. 307](#) (1982)

Nixon v. Fitzgerald, held that a president has absolute immunity from civil suits, [457 U.S. 731](#) (1982)

Harlow v. Fitzgerald, held that presidential aides have qualified immunity from civil suits, [457 U.S. 800](#) (1982)

Washington v. Seattle School District No. 1, held that a statewide initiative for busing plans, which was meant to integrate its schools, was in violation of

the Equal Protection Clause in that it mandated a neighborhood driven policy, [458 U.S. 457](#) (1982)

Northern Pipeline Construction Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co., held that the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978 was in violation of Article III of the Constitution, in that it limited the power of the district courts by establishing bankruptcy courts, [458 U.S. 50](#) (1982)

Crawford v. Los Angeles Board of Education, held that a California State Constitutional amendment forbidding mandatory pupil assignment of transportation, was not in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment, in that it was not enacted with a discriminatory purpose, even though the purpose of the pupil assignment and transportation was for the carrying out of desegregation plans, [458 U.S. 527](#) (1982)

New York v. Ferber, held that a law prohibiting the dissemination of materials containing pornographic acts by children under sixteen years old was constitutional, [458 U.S. 747](#) (1982)

NAACP v. Clariborne Hardware Co., held that the nonviolent protesting of white merchants in Mississippi was protected under the First Amendment, 458 U.S. 886 (1982)

Larkin v. Grendel's Den, held that a state may not, within the limits imposed by the Establishment Clause, accommodate the diverse interests of its citizens through a zoning statute which shields objecting schools and churches from the disturbances associated with the distribution and consumption of liquor within their immediate vicinity, [459 US 116](#) (1982)

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1981 Events

- **Jan. 20:** [Iran Hostage Crisis - Iran releases the 52 Americans held for 444 days within minutes of Ronald Reagan succeeding Jimmy Carter as President of the United States, ending the Iranian hostage crisis](#)
- **Feb. 9:** Polish Prime Minister Józef Piłsudski resigns and is replaced by General Wojciech Jaruzelski
- **Mar. 1:** [Bobby Sands, a member of the Provisional Irish Republican Army, a terrorist organization intent upon liberating Northern](#)

[Ireland from Great Britain, begins a hunger strike for political status in Long Kesh prison](#)

- **Mar. 19:** An accident during a ground test of NASA's space shuttle *Columbia* led to the death by asphyxiation of three workers
- **Mar. 30:** [President Reagan is shot in the chest outside a Washington, D.C. hotel by John Hinckley, Jr.](#)
- **Apr. 12:** [NASA launches the space shuttle *Columbia*, the first reusable spacecraft, which is piloted by astronauts John Young and Robert Crippen](#)
- **May 5:** [Provisional Irish Republican Army volunteer Bobby Sands dies during his hunger strike at Long Kesh prison at the age of 27](#)
- **May 13:** [As Pope John Paul II enters St. Peter's Square in Vatican City, he is shot and nearly killed by Mehmet Ali Ağca, a Turkish gunman](#)
- **May 25:** [The Gulf Cooperation Council is created by the governments of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia](#)
- **May 30:** Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman is assassinated in Chittagong
- **June 5:** [A report is published about cases of pneumocystis carinii pneumonia occurring in gay men; the study is considered the beginning of general awareness of AIDS in the U.S.](#)
- **June 7:** [The Israeli Air Force destroys Iraq's Osirak nuclear reactor](#)
- **June 18:** The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States is founded
- **July 17:** [Israeli aircraft bomb several apartment complexes housing the Palestine Liberation Organization \(PLO\) leadership and ancillary organizations in Beirut, Lebanon](#)
- **July 29:** [A worldwide television audience of over 700 million watches as Charles, Prince of Wales, weds Lady Diana Spencer at St Paul's Cathedral in London](#)
- **Aug. 1:** MTV (Music Television), the first 24-hour video music channel, begins broadcasting
- **Aug. 19:** [Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi dispatches two Sukhoi-Su-22 fighters to intercept U.S. Navy fighters engaged in exercises over the Gulf of Sidra. The Libyan fighters failed to complete their mission](#)
- **Aug. 27:** North Korea fires an anti-aircraft missile at a U.S. SR-71 Blackbird spy plane flying in South Korean and international airspace. The spy plane escaped unharmed
- **Sept. 25:** [Sandra Day O'Connor takes her seat on the U.S. Supreme Court, making her the first female justice to sit on that court](#)
- **Oct. 6:** [Egyptian president Anwar Sadat is assassinated during a parade by army members who belong to the Egyptian Islamic Jihad organization](#)
- **Nov. 23:** *Iran-Contra Affair* – [President Reagan signs National Security Decision Directive 17 \(NSDD-17\), authorizing the Central Intelligence Agency to recruit and support Contra rebels in Nicaragua](#)
- **Dec. 13:** [General Wojciech Jaruzelski declares martial law in Poland, to prevent the dismantling of the communist system by the trade union Solidarity](#)

1982 Events

- **Jan. 13:** [Air Florida Flight 90 crashes into Washington D.C.'s 14th Street Bridge and falls into the Potomac River shortly after takeoff, killing 78](#)
- **Jan. 28:** [Italian anti-terrorism commandos rescue U.S. Army Brigadier General James L. Dozier from the urban guerrilla group "Red Brigades," which held Dozier for 42 days](#)
- **Feb. 3:** Syrian president Hafez al-Assad orders the army to purge the city of Hama of the Muslim Brotherhood
- **Mar. 10:** [U.S. places an embargo on Libyan oil imports, alleging Libya's support for terrorist groups](#)
- **Mar. 26:** A groundbreaking ceremony is held in Washington D.C. for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- **Apr. 2:** [Argentina invades and occupies the Falkland Islands beginning The Falklands War](#)
- **Apr. 25:** [Israel completes its withdrawal from Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, which it had occupied since the 1967 Six-Day War, in accordance with the terms of the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty of 1979](#)
- **May 1:** [A crowd of over 100,000 attends the first day of the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee](#)
- **May 5:** [A bomb sent by the so-called Unabomber, Ted Kaczynski, explodes at the computer science department of Vanderbilt University, injuring Janet Smith, a secretary in the department](#)
- **May 30:** [Cal Ripken, Jr. plays the first game in what would become a record-breaking 2,632 consecutive game streak for Major League Baseball's Baltimore Orioles](#)
- **June 6:** [The 1982 Lebanon War begins when troops under Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon invade southern Lebanon](#)
- **June 8:** President Reagan becomes the first American chief executive to address a joint session of the British Parliament
- **July 23:** [The International Whaling Commission adopts an indefinite global moratorium on commercial whaling that is to begin by 1985-1986](#)
- **Aug. 12:** [Mexico says it is unable to pay its large foreign debt, which triggers a debt crisis that quickly spreads throughout Latin America](#)
- **Aug. 20:** *Lebanese Civil War* – [A multinational force arrives in Beirut to oversee the PLO withdrawal from Lebanon](#)
- **Sept. 14:** *Lebanese Civil War* – [Bachir Gemayel, the President-elect of Lebanon, is assassinated in Beirut](#)
- **Sept. 18:** *Lebanese Civil War* – [In retaliation for the assassination of Lebanon's president-elect Bachir Gemayel, Lebanese Christian Phalangist militia kill thousands of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps](#)
- **Oct. 8:** Poland bans Solidarity after having suspended it on Dec. 13 1981

- **Nov. 3:** The Dow Jones Industrial Average surges 43.41 points, or 4.25 percent to close at 1,065.49, its first all-time high in more than nine years
- **Dec. 16:** An anti-apartheid group bombs an office of South African Airways in Elmont, N.Y. and an IBM office in Harrison, N.Y. because of IBM's business dealings in South Africa

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Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations and Human Resources, Committee on Government Operations. House. [Federal Response to AIDS](#). GPO, Aug. 1-2, 1983. 98th Congress, 1st Session, (Y4.G74/7:Ac7). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1983-OPH-0054

Subcommittee on International Economic Policy; Committee on Foreign Relations. Senate. [Third World Debt](#). GPO, Sept. 23, 1982. 97th Congress, 2nd Session. ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1982-FOR-0150

U.S. House. 97th Congress, 2nd Session. ["97 H. Con. Res. 260 Referred to Committee House."](#) (Feb. 2, 1982). ProQuest Congressional, 97 H. Con. Res. 260

U.S. House. 97th Congress, 2nd Session. ["97 H. Res. 207 Referred to Committee House."](#) (Sept. 9, 1981). ProQuest Congressional

Major Acts

Constitution for the United States Virgin Islands. Approved the Constitution for the United States Virgin Islands. Approved July 9, 1979. ([95 Stat. 105; PL97-21](#))

Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981. Encouraged economic growth by reducing tax rates for individual taxpayers, attempted to accelerate capital cost recovery of investment in plant, equipment, and real property, and incentivized savings. Approved Aug. 13, 1981. ([95 Stat. 172; PL97-34](#)) ([Regulation History](#))

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981. Provided for tax cuts, decreasing Federal spending, while increasing the military budget. Approved Aug. 13, 1981. ([95 Stat. 357; PL97-35](#)) ([Regulation History](#))

Veterans' Health Care, Training, and Small Business Loan Act of 1981. Extended the period for Vietnam-era veterans to request counseling under the veterans' readjustment counseling program and extended eligibility for medical care for veterans exposed to herbicides or defoliants or nuclear radiation. Approved Nov. 3, 1981. ([95 Stat. 1047; PL97-72](#)) ([Regulation History](#))

Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1982. Reauthorized and extended certain provisions of the Voting Rights Act. Approved June 29, 1982. ([96 Stat. 131; PL97-205](#)) ([Regulation History](#))

Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982. Sought to reduce the Federal budget gap by generating revenue through the closure of tax loopholes and the introduction of tougher enforcement of tax rules. Approved Sept. 3, 1982. ([96 Stat. 324; PL97-248](#)) ([Regulation History](#))

Bus Regulatory Reform Act of 1982. Provided for the regulation of motor carries. Approved Sept. 20, 1982. ([96 Stat. 1102; PL97-261](#)) ([Regulation History](#))

Job Training Partnership Act. Provided for a job-training program for youth and unskilled adults for labor force entry. Also provided job training to economically disadvantaged and other individuals facing employment barriers. Approved Oct. 13, 1982. ([96 Stat. 1322; PL97-300](#)) ([Regulation History](#))

Garn-St Germain Depository Institutions Act of 1982. Sought to revitalize the housing industry by strengthening the financial stability of home mortgage lending institutions and ensuring the availability of home mortgage loans. Approved Oct. 15, 1982. ([96 Stat. 1469; PL97-320](#)) ([Regulation History](#))

Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982. Sought to address concerns about the surface transportation highways and bridges infrastructure. It authorized the construction of certain highways in accordance with guidelines for highway safety; and funded mass transportation in urban and rural areas. Approved Jan. 6, 1983. ([96 Stat. 2097; PL97-424](#)) ([Regulation History](#))

Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. Provided for the development of repositories for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel, established a program of research, development, and demonstration regarding the disposal of high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuels. Approved Jan. 7, 1983. ([96 Stat. 2201; PL97-425](#)) ([Regulation History](#))

Source:

Dell, Christopher and Stephen W. Stathis, [*Major Acts of Congress and Treaties Approved by the Senate, 1789-1980*](#). Government Division (CRS), Sept. 1, 1982. 97th Congress, 2nd Session, 82-156 GOV. ProQuest Congressional, CRS-1982-GOV-0005

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