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December 23, 1993

Mr. Michael Kantor  
The United States Trade Representative  
Executive Office of the President  
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Mr. Kantor:

This letter is written in response to your recent request that the State of Utah voluntarily commit to be covered by the federal Government Procurement Code. The purpose of your request is to strengthen the GATT negotiating position of the United States by providing foreign buyers uniform market access throughout the United States.

We have compared the federal Government Procurement Code with that of the State of Utah and find them to be closely harmonized. We were initially concerned about the extended time requirement for contract tenders. However, reduction of the time limit to two weeks has alleviated that concern. With resolution of that problem, it appears that the Utah and federal Government Procurement Codes are now so closely harmonized that Utah is, in essence, already generally following the federal code. Thus, foreign buyer access to Utah markets is already virtually the same as that provided under the federal code.

We are most pleased that current Utah law allows us to support GATT negotiations in this manner.

Sincerely,

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor

MOL/jaj/dm