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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

EVERARD H. SMITH, CLERK
THOMAS J. SCOTT, ASST. CLERK

March ..., 1953

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Dear ...:

May I advise in response to your letter of recent date that the proposed Constitutional amendment to limit taxes says nothing whatsoever about income tax rates. This would be a matter on which Congress would legislate.

I have always subscribed to the general proposition of taxing on the basis of ability to pay but that in no ways interferes with a limitation upon the maximum amount which the government can collect in peacetime.

The bill contains an amendment so that the limitation would not be applicable in time of war or critical emergency.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen