

Everett McKinley Dirksen  
Illinois

United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

(FOR)

ROBO: MURRAY-METCALF BILL (AID TO EDUCATION)  
March 17, 1959

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Dear ....:

I have noted with interest your comment on the general school situation and your hope that I might support the Murray-Metcalf Bill. I am quite sure that in its present form or even substantially in its present form I shall not support it, and, in fact, feel duty bound to vigorously oppose it.

From the standpoint of our state we do, of course have a rather mixed picture. Both the Governor and Superintendent Nickell were opposed to an aid to education bill in any form. The bills pending at the time those positions were asserted were quite modest compared with the overall cost of the Murray-Metcalf Bill.

Confronted as we are with a tight budget situation, I shall not want to initiate or concur in any action which will disturb the delicate balance of the budget as reported to the Congress, because it involves our fiscal well-being at a time when the debt is mounting, interest rates are increasing and the inflationary fevers can be so easily energized to the point where they become positively dangerous. Notwithstanding all this, I want you to know that the matter is not summarily dismissed from mind or that my mind is closed. Rather I am trying to set out what my present thinking is.

With every good wish,

Everett McKinley Dirksen

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Everett McKinley Dirksen  
Illinois

United States Senate  
Minority Leader

RE: ANTI MURRAY-METCALF BILL  
June 1, 1959

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Dear .....

Let me advise that I share your opposition to S. 2, the so-called Murray-Metcalf Bill for aid to education. The overall cost involves an almost unbelievable amount of money and I hope at the proper time, if and when it does come on the Senate Floor for action, to state my case.

I do appreciate your views on this matter.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen