

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Illinois

United States Senate
Minority Leader

Diesel Fuel Tax

April 30, 1962

Dear :

I have your letter regarding the proposal to place a tax on diesel fuel. Unquestionably this would create considerable hardship for inland water ways carriers who I might add are already having difficult times. There seems to me to be little reason to place additional burdens on an already hard pressed industry.

At this time there is no legislation before the Congress to impose the tax on diesel fuel. The President has proposed such a tax in two of his messages, but no actual legislation has been introduced.

As you know, if this measure is to be considered, action must originate in the House of Representatives and hearings held before the Ways and Means Committee. The Senate can amend tax bills and this proposal could come before the Senate in the form of an amendment to a House passed tax bill.

If legislation to impose this tax is sent to the Senate by the House, I would appreciate having your further views at that time so I might make use of them as we consider the measure.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen