

Everett McKinley Dirksen  
Illinois

United States Senate  
Minority Leader

Urban Affairs

, 1962

Dear :

Insofar as I can tell at the moment there is strong and wide opposition to the bill to create a new Cabinet Department of Urban Affairs. I expect to lend my efforts in opposition to this proposal because I see no necessity for such a new agency. Its history will be that of all other agencies, namely, growth in personnel, expanded functions, and greater centralization of power in the federal government.

I appreciate your views.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen

*Everett McKinley Dirksen*  
*Illinois*

*United States Senate*  
*Minority Leader*

Urban Affairs

Feb. 22, 1962

Dear :

On Wednesday, February 21, 1962, the House of Representatives considered the proposal to create a new Cabinet Department on Urban Affairs and Housing. This came in the form of a Reorganization Plan, but evidently the House was not persuaded on the merits of a new department at this time and the measure was defeated by a majority of 114 votes.

Under the Reorganization Rule it requires but one House of Congress to disapprove such a proposal and hence it will not come before the Senate for action. Let me emphasize, however, that I was opposed to this proposal because I could see no necessity for such a new agency. Its history would have been that of all other agencies, namely, growth in personnel, expanded functions, and greater centralization of power in the federal government.

I do appreciate your interest and your views.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen