

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Illinois

United States Senate
Minority Leader

NON SECTARIAN PRAYER PETITION

May 22, 1963

Dear -----:

Thank you for your recent petition requesting my support of a Constitutional Amendment which would permit the use of non-sectarian prayer and the use of the Bible in the school classrooms of the various states. Such an amendment was proposed in the last session but did not come to the Senate Floor for a vote.

In this session several bills which have been introduced pursuant to suggestions similar to yours are now pending in the Congress. These proposals may be changed somewhat by amendment prior to being sent to the Senate.

I shall give them careful study -- keeping in mind your active interest in this important subject -- in the hope that this situation may be ultimately resolved to the satisfaction of all our people.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Illinois

Edna

United States Senate
Minority Leader

PRAYER AMENDMENT

December 2, 1963

Dear -----:

Let me acknowledge receipt of your note relating to any proposed legislation which may come before the Congress to amend the Constitution whereby prayer and reading of the Bible in the public schools would be permitted. I can only assure you that if and when such a proposal comes before the Senate it will have the most careful and searching study and attention.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen