

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Illinois

Edna

United States Senate
Minority Leader

[Beef Imports]

MEAT IMPORTS - ROBO

March 25, 1964

Dear -----:

The Senate Finance Committee, of which I am a member, is conducting hearings at the present time on legislation which would limit the importation of beef, veal, and mutton. A number of witnesses have already been heard since the hearings started on March 11th and there are several more to be heard by the Committee. I realize the seriousness of this situation and can assure you that the Committee is most sympathetic to the problem.

I regret that we were unable to secure adoption of the beef quota amendment to the wheat and cotton bill during the debate on the Senate Floor, however, it was opposed by the Administration and, as you know, they have a two to one majority in the Senate.

Nevertheless, I will continue to do whatever I can in behalf of this hard pressed industry.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen



United States Senate

January 17, 1965

Dear :

I appreciate your letter urging my support for the legislation which would provide Federal protection for animals used in laboratory experimentation. There were a good number of bills introduced in both the House and Senate during the last Session of Congress which would deal with the problems in this area. However, none of these measures have been reported, as yet, from the various committees and brought to the full Senate for consideration.

You may be certain that any proposal of this type will have my close and sympathetic attention when it is brought to the Senate Floor during the course of our deliberations.

It was good to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen

*Animal Exper. Rebo
(Cut mach 10)*

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Illinois

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United States Senate
Minority Leader

BEEF IMPORTS

May 27, 1964

Dear :

I have your recent letter concerning the problems that beef producers in this country have in respect to the competition they are receiving from imported beef. I know first hand of the serious impact that imported beef is having on the domestic producers of beef and I can assure you that I am giving this matter my closest attention.

We had legislation under consideration before the Finance Committee which would roll back the imports of beef to the average for the period of 1958 to 1963. However, the civil rights legislation now before the Senate has made it impossible for the Finance Committee to meet. It would have required unanimous consent of the Senate for the Committee to continue its work on the beef legislation and this unanimous consent was not available to us. However, I can assure you the Committee will return to this problem as soon as the civil rights legislation is out of the way.

The administration has negotiated an agreement with New Zealand, Australia, Ireland and Mexico which would limit somewhat the importation of beef but in the opinion of many it did not go far enough. I am advised that further discussions are taking place with regard to the possibility of amending this agreement to further limit imports. In addition, the administration has announced a purchasing program whereby domestically produced beef will be acquired in additional quantities for the school lunch program and for distribution to the needy. There is also a determined drive under way to increase our exports of beef in processed form.

I do not know how soon the Finance Committee will be able to resume its consideration of legislation pending, but I can assure you that it will be at the earliest opportunity. In the meantime the Tariff Commission is directed to report to the Senate by June 30 pursuant to a resolution which was adopted by the Finance Committee and the results of their report should be very beneficial in assisting us with this legislation.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen

EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN
ILLINOIS

Edna
MINORITY LEADER



United States Senate

BEEF IMPORTS

August 4, 1964

Dear -----:

As you know by now, the Senate on July 28, 1964 passed H.R. 1839 and included an amendment which would place restrictions on imports of meat from foreign countries.

I supported this provision both in the Senate Finance Committee as well as during debate on the Senate Floor.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen