March 1952

Dear ...:

This will acknowledge your letter in opposition to OPS controls.

I opposed this legislation when it was first reported out of committee in the last session and was one of those who voted against the final enactment of this legislation.

You may be assured also that when it comes up in this session, it will receive my best attention.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
May ..., 1952

...  
...  
...  

Dear ...:

This will acknowledge your recent communication.

After a recent session in the Senate Banking and Currency Committee with the Economic Stabilization Chairman, representatives of the Wage Stabilization Board and the Administrator of the Office of Price Stabilization, I become increasingly convinced that the way to bring order out of the present chaos is to let the present price ceilings terminate on June 30 before dislocation goes any further.

Your views are deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
June ..., 1952

...  
...  
...  

Dear ...:

I quite agree that controls on consumer credit as administered under Regulation W and also Regulation X have failed and it was probably the failure as much as anything coupled with a softening of the market in many lines which impelled the Federal Reserve System to suspend Regulation W entirely and dictate a modification on Regulation X.

I quite agree with your premise that matters of this kind should be written into the law instead of being delegated in the form of a discretionary power to a federal agency. Securing the enactment of such a proposition, however, is a difficult matter because it requires votes.

My efforts at decontrol met with failure in the committee and also on the floor of the Senate simply because it was impossible to secure the necessary number of votes for their adoption.

For my part I am convinced that controls should be terminated as of June 30, but there are not enough members who share that view to accomplish that purpose.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
June ..., 1952

Dear ...:

Your communication of recent date arrived just as the Senate completed action on the Defense Production bill.

Be assured that I do appreciate your comments.

With every good wish,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
July 28, 1952

...

Dear ...

The spirited controversy over the extension of the provisions of the Defense Production Act, including price, wage and rent controls, is temporarily at an end from the legislative standpoint since both House and Senate have agreed to the conference bill which was approved by both branches on Saturday, June 28.

Doubtless you already know that the bill in final form calls for a continuation of price controls until April 30, 1953, with some slight modifications, such as the suspension of controls on fresh and processed fruits and vegetables.

Rent control under the provisions of the bill will terminate on September 30 except in areas designated as critical defense areas or where by the action of a local body such as a city council or a county board action has been taken to continue rent control.

The Wage Stabilization Board, is continued with industry, labor and public members, all of whom are subject to Senate confirmation. The authority of the Board has been limited to stabilization of wages, salaries and other remuneration. This is a considerable limitation on the authority of the Board in labor disputes.

There were some other modifications but substantially this is the form in which the bill passed.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen