June ..., 1952

Dear ...:

In a way it was unfortunate that in the first instance the House of Representatives rejected a recent bill providing for an increase in Social Security benefits but I think there was a reason for the action so taken.

You may recall that in addition to the modifications of security benefits, a provision was inserted which was regarded by many as the entering wedge to the socialization of medical services in this country and when that fact was fully explored in the course of debate, the House by a substantial majority defeated the bill.

Subsequently, both the Administration and Republican Representative Reed of New York introduced new bills providing for these benefits but with the objectionable sections deleted and it is quite likely as this is written that the House will consider and pass that proposal.

I checked the matter with the Senate Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction of this bill, on Monday and am confident that after the House has acted and before the adjournment of this session additional benefits will be provided.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Dear ...:

In a way it was unfortunate that in the first instance the House of Representatives rejected a recent bill providing for an increase in Social Security benefits but I think there was a reason for the action so taken.

You may recall that in addition to the modifications of security benefits, a provision was inserted which was regarded by many as the entering wedge to the socialization of medical services in this country and when that fact was fully explored in the course of debate, the House by a substantial majority defeated the bill.

Now, however, the above mentioned section was eliminated in the Senate and this legislation has passed both Houses and is in conference.

I am grateful for your comments.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen