May..., 1953

Dear ...

I am glad to note your interest in the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, which will be reconsidered in the months ahead. As a matter of fact, I am giving this matter sustained attention in the hope that a review procedure can be developed under which American industry can more extensively present their case against any lowering of duties where there might be an adverse effect.

I consider it important that we write into existing law certain protective clauses which would equalize competition with commodities produced abroad and save the American market from a type of competition based on low wages and long hours. This will continue to receive careful attention.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
May..., 1953

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Dear ...:

I do appreciate your recent communication and have discussed this matter with staff members of the House Ways and Means Committee.

The committee is presently holding hearings on the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act which are scheduled to run through May 20. The section of the bill relating to the Sliding Scale Tariff on lead, zinc and other commodities will be discussed and you can be assured I shall give this legislation very careful attention as it progresses through committee and to the floor for action.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen