June 1, 1962

Dear:

For five days the Senate considered the omnibus Agricultural Bill, as reported by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, and the principal controversy centered on those provisions offered by Senator Ellender of Louisiana and others to restore items involving sharp control which the Committee had deleted. The Committee improved the bill immensely but still not enough to make it acceptable.

During the Floor consideration Senate Republicans stood steadfast to reject the Administration amendments, under which the most stringent controls in the history of agriculture would be imposed.

Notwithstanding the fact that Republicans stood side by side, the Democratic majority in the Senate -- which is nearly two to one -- managed to reincorporate these control items in the bill. On final passage only one Republican voted for this measure. Its ultimate destiny is now in the hands of the House of Representatives, and I understand that an equally vigorous effort will be made to reject the Administration program for controls.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen

United States Senate
Minority Leader
Dear:

I appreciate the views expressed in your communication on the pending Farm Bill and in general I concur in these expressions. Before this note reaches you, you will have observed that the House of Representatives by a scant margin of five votes approved the Conference Report on the Farm Bill and it will be considered in the Senate on Tuesday, September 25.

We shall give a good account of ourselves even though there is a likelihood that the bill will be approved. I do indeed appreciate your views.

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