Dear:

It seems to me that what is forgotten in this struggle over Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act is that it is just another invasion of the rights of states to legislate in the labor field whether it involves the union shop or any other question.

The general doctrine of those who want it repealed is to prohibit the states from legislating at all by having Congress preempt this field for purposes of national legislation, and I have been and I am unalterably opposed to the further destruction of that constitutional system which has accounted for our greatness, our productivity and for a type of government which has worked better than any other in the annals of mankind. It seems to me that that is the whole story.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Dear:

Thank you for your letter of recent date relating to the so-called Right-to-Work laws.

A diligent effort has been underway for quite some time to have Section 11(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act repealed but I have steadfastly and consistently advised all labor leaders and delegations who have come to see me about this that under no circumstances would I undertake to vote to repeal this section. States are, therefore, quite free to legislate in this field and a number of them have already done so.

Be assured this matter will receive my best attention.

With every good wish,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Dear:  

I am grateful for your support of my efforts in opposition to the Administration's proposal to repeal Section 11(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act.  

We will do the best we can.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Dear ...:

It seems to me that what is forgotten in this struggle over Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act is that it is another invasion of the rights of states to legislate in the labor field whether it involves the union shop or any other question.

The general doctrine of those who want it repealed is to prohibit the states from legislating at all by having Congress preempt this field for purposes of national legislation, and I have been and I am opposed to the further destruction of that constitutional system which has accounted for our greatness, our productivity and a type of government which has worked better than any other in the annals of mankind. It seems to me that is the whole story.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Dear:

My deep appreciation for your gracious and complimentary letter. A basic principle was involved in the 14(b) fight and if the issue is raised again we will be prepared to do battle all over again.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen