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Federal Construction Contracts
Copy
Illinois
S. 848
Allen

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

May 26, 1953

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Dear ...:

When the so-called Federal Construction Contracts Bill (S. 848) was under consideration by the Judiciary subcommittee, I noticed that government witnesses for the Army, Navy, Air Force and the General Services Administration testified in opposition to the bill.

Among other things, these witnesses contended that the bill would (1) place government in a managerial position with respect to contracts, (2) add to the administrative burdens, (3) result in a possible increase in costs, (4) discriminate in the sense that it gave no similar protection against bid-shopping to suppliers and material men, (5) destroy and hamper the flexibility of procurement in a time of emergency and cause a slow-down, (6) that it was ambiguous on the matter of the competency of subcontractors, and have other undesirable effects.

Despite this opposition, I shall, of course, give careful consideration to the bill, including the testimony given by those who presented the subcontractors point of view.

I appreciate your expression of interest in this measure and will seek to evaluate the whole issue very carefully.

With every good wish,

Everett McKinley Dirksen