

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE JOINT REPUBLICAN
CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS CALLED FOR JANUARY 30, 1962, AT
8:30 A.M. IN THE OFFICE OF THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER, THE
HONORABLE EVERETT MC KINLEY DIRKSEN

Members Present:

Senators Dirksen, Saltonstall, Kuchel
Representatives Halleck, Arends, Hoeven, Byrnes, Brown

Member Absent:

Senator Hickenlooper

Also Absent: The Presiding Officer, William E. Miller

Also Present: Robert Humphreys, Bryce Harlow, Harry Brookshire,
Robert Allett and Mark Trice

In the absence from the city of the Presiding Officer, the Honorable William E. Miller, the meeting was called to order at 8:30 A.M. by Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen and the following agenda was presented for consideration:

Urban Affairs

Literacy Tests

Other Matters

URBAN AFFAIRS

The statement on this subject which had been previously prepared and circulated was read by Mr. Halleck. Senator Dirksen spoke of the threat of an Executive Order on this subject by the White House and he stated that it was the belief of the National Convention of Real Estate Board that if the order were signed housing starts would be curtailed. He also stated that the White House was under pressure by the NAACP to have it signed. He also spoke of the great rush on the part of Mansfield to have introduced the Literacy Tests bill after he was informed by Senator Javits that the latter would attach an amendment dealing with this matter to the Labor bill on Welfare and Pension Funds.

Congressman Brown stated that since 1952 the House Rules Committee had refused to report any one of the 29 bills on this subject and that in the Committee there was no talk whatever concerning Weaver. He stated that there was no question of the President's right under the Reorganization Act to put all Housing affairs together but there was a legal question as to whether or not something new can be created in this manner. He expressed the view that the legislation was socialistic and would completely destroy the state and local authority with no limit whatever to the size of the urban area and that 3/4 of the American people would be affected by it.

Congressman Halleck stated that the House Policy Committee had gone on record as opposing the bill and five members of the Rules Committee cast their vote against it.

Senator Saltonstall suggested that the statement be strengthened by the addition of a few sentences at the beginning thereof to the effect that it was bad legislation and that the Democrat party was abandoning principles for votes. Senator Saltonstall read the suggested language and after discussion and a suggested addition by Congressman Brown the language was included in the statement which was approved. A copy of the final statement is attached.

LITERACY TESTS

Senator Dirksen read the prepared statement which had been previously distributed and the statement was approved as read. A copy of the statement is attached.

OTHER MATTERS

There was general discussion concerning what should be done to implement the action on the part of the House Policy Committee with regard to a Republican Statement of Principles. Senator Dirksen suggested that perhaps

a committee of five members should be selected from each side to consider the project and it was his opinion that the Senate Policy Committee would take the matter under consideration at its next meeting. It was therefore decided to withhold any action until next week.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 A.M.

J. Mark Tice
Acting Secretary

Approved by the
Acting Presiding Officer
February 5, 1962