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This Week In Congress Radio Address: Conclusion of 85th Congress, 1958 August 10
Speaker: Senator J. Allen Frear
Transcribed by: David Cardillo

[00:00]


Mr. Kelly: From Washington, DC, transcribed, United States Senator J. Allen Frear reports again to the people of Delaware on current congressional affairs. Ladies and gentlemen, Senator Frear.

Senator Frear: Thank you, Mr. Kelly. This is the week during which the Eighty-Fifth Congress has been expecting to conclude its deliberations and adjourn sine die. However, the still unresolved volume of pending legislation raises serious doubts as to the possibility of reaching this objective. But because adjournment is not far distant, I am concluding this year’s series of statements with this presentation. In doing so, we observe a milestone of some ten years during which these weekly comments have been made available to the people of Delaware as a matter of information and possible guidance in their consideration of legislative affairs of the Congress. My personal appreciation and warm thanks are again due to our radio stations throughout the state and the various newspapers which have utilized these statements in whole or part as a matter of public information. Last week, I expressed the view that the final record of this Congress would be an impressive one. This opinion is shared by many persons, including the President, despite the fact that the executive and legislative branches are controlled by different parties. It is, I believe, a tribute to the unusual confidence of the Senate’s Majority Leader, Senator Lyndon Johnson, who has demonstrated increasingly effective judgment and skill in the conduct of Senate business. Also, to a very significant extent, has been the cooperative assistance of the Senate Minority Leader, Mr. Knowland of California. Among many important legislative actions of the Eighty-Fifth Congress have been those which managed statehood to Alaska, extended unemployment compensation to partially counter the growing effects of the business recession, reorganize the Department of Defense, adjusted postal rates and wages, and took major action toward extending the Reciprocal Trade Program. Pending this week are two important tax bills, also foreign aid appropriations, and a bill to increase social security benefits. Many, many additional legislative decisions on various other matters have also been reached during the tenure of the Eighty-Fifth Congress to further demonstrate its record of solid accomplishment. This Congress, through individual members and committees, has demonstrated leadership in international affairs at a time of great need. It studied and recommended action in the field of space
exploration and other scientific endeavors. Its views have and are still being expressed on many facets of our overall foreign policy, especially as it concerns the present situation in the Middle East. This problem will remain unsolved as the Congress goes home, but the forthcoming meeting of the General Assembly will hopefully contribute some constructive discussion to a solution. In connection with events in the Middle East and elsewhere overseas, there is, of course, a good deal of congressional concern over the conduct of our foreign policy in months past. But despite partisan differences on many legislative issues, all of America rejoiced last week with the announcement that the submarine *Nautilus* had crossed the top of the world, under ice, to chart the long-sought Northwest Passage. This was a great achievement for which all concerned should take due credit. And now, in closing, may I again thank the many Delawareans for their continued interest in the legislative activities of this Eighty-Fifth Congress. I hope to resume these statements when the new Congress opens in January.

[05:00]

Mr. Kelly: Thank you, Senator Frear. From the nation’s capital, you have heard United States Senator J. Allen Frear in final statement of the Eighty-Fifth Congress on current congressional affairs. Senator Frear’s commentaries will be renewed in the Eighty-Sixth Congress, convened in January.

[End 05:23]