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This Week In Congress Radio Address: Frear's Committee Participation, 1959 January 16  
Speaker: Senator J. Allen Frear  
Transcribed by: David Cardillo

[00:00]

Announcer: The Week in Congress, recorded on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 1959.

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. The Senate has taken further steps to complete its organizational procedure as major legislative considerations begin coming into the foreground. Chief among the Senate's actions of the past few days was the designation of its members to the various standing and special committees of the Senate. Because of the makeup of the Senate in this new Congress, the majority party will logically have a substantially greater number of senators on the various committees. In most cases, the breakdown will be eleven for the majority and six for the minority. This is an increase for the majority over the last Congress when the Senate membership was much more closely divided. In my own case, I am retaining the two major committees on which I have been privileged to serve now for quite a few years. These are the Senate Finance Committee and the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency. Each of these committees concerns itself with legislation of immediate and important interests to the State of Delaware. For instance, taxes, tariffs, and social security, and certain types of veteran's legislation are a regular part of the Finance Committee's agenda. The Banking and Currency Committee handles legislation in such vital subjects as housing, securities and exchange matters, the Federal Reserve, small business, production and stabilization, and others. A third standing committee of the Senate, in which I am also retaining membership, is the District of Columbia, which as you know, looks after Federal responsibilities in the capital city of Washington. Additionally, I am also remaining as a member of the Joint Committee on Defense Production, the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, and the Democratic Steering Committee. These latter three are known as special committees of the Senate. Incidentally, one particular reason for not changing major committee assignments is to preserve and increase seniority, which is highly important and desirable for any senator. The initial committee meetings for purposes of formal organization will probably take place, in most instances, sometime this week, after which hearings on specific items of legislation will begin. As a matter of fact, the Banking and Currency Committee starts housing hearings on Thursday. As the Congress proceeded toward the completion

of these preliminary requirements to its major undertaking, a good deal of informal discussion has developed with regard to the still-unsettled political situation in Cuba. Stability in this important island, which is so close to the United States, is an extremely desired objective, and it is to be hoped that conditions there, now that we have recognized the new government, will revert to normal as quickly as possible. While our immediate negotiations are being carried on from the level of the State Department with the new Cuban government, Congress is naturally concerned because of the humanitarian as well as the economic aspects which are involved.

Mr. Kelly:

Thank you, Senator Frear. From the nation's capital, you have heard United States Senator J. Allen Frear in his regular report to the people of Delaware on current congressional affairs. Senator Frear will be heard again next week at this same time, speaking from the Senate Office Building in Washington.

**[End 04:53]**