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This Week In Congress Radio Address: Legislation of the 1st Session of the 85th Congress,
1957 December

Speaker: Senator J. Allen Frear
Transcribed by: David Cardillo

[00:00]

Announcer: The Week in Congress, recorded in 1957.

Mr. Kelly: From Washington, DC, transcribed, United States Senator J. Allen Frear brings to the people of Delaware the first in his new series of brief, weekly reports on current congressional affairs. These commentaries will be heard regularly at this hour during the second session of the Eighty-Fifth Congress. Ladies and gentlemen, Senator Frear.

Senator Frear: Thank you, Mr. Kelly. I am indeed happy to have this opportunity of again greeting the people of Delaware as we prepare to resume legislative activities in Washington. This January will mark the start of my tenth year as a member of Delaware's congressional delegation. During this period, as we all know, the nation has passed through a number of demanding and difficult periods due mainly from problems arising from the impasse in our relationship with the Soviet Union and its satellites. And, as another year comes to a close, it is abundantly evident that despite the demonstrated efforts of the Western world to achieve understanding of the countries of the Iron Curtain, our status in 1958 must reflect increasing alertness and preparedness in military affairs. The obvious necessity for this position is all around us and surely familiar to everyone. The Soviet Union is working toward a goal of armed strength which is achieved to place it in a position to challenge not only our allies abroad, but the physical safety of our own land. We have then no choice but to unite our efforts and our determination to meet the situation as it exists and be prepared for any eventuality if it should ever come. The successful breakthrough by the Russians into the field of outer space has opened up a whole new concept of military science. We must, and I am confident we shall, equalize that attainment, if not exceed it. In doing so, our intentions will, as always, not be motivated by any desire for conquest or aggression, but to preserve and strengthen the principles of individual freedom and liberty, without which our way of life would disappear. Many of the American people are acutely aware of the present circumstances in which the nation finds itself. Indeed, actions are already being hastened to bring us abreast of the challenge. That sacrifices will be necessary is apparent. To what extent they are required will depend on developments of the future. We shall hope and strive for reaching our necessary objective with the least disruption of normal living. But unending vigilance is the task of the moment. Congress will play a major, if not a dominant, role in many

decisions of compelling importance during 1958. Domestic as well as foreign issues will come before the membership of both the Senate and House of Representatives for consideration and decisions. Most of these matters will involve appropriations of Federal funds, and it is, therefore, likely that early attention will be given to the overall financial requirements of the Federal government as estimated through the proposed budget of the next fiscal year. This recommendation will come from the President in one of the early messages to the Congress after the Senate and House have reconvened. Increased military spending is seen as a vital necessity by most everyone. But although such increases could be the forerunner of added Federal taxes, many of us are hopeful that reduced spending in non-military activities will balance these larger outlays for defense requirements. It is often difficult, and frequently unpopular, to economize an appropriations for non-defense purposes. This may be especially true in 1958: an election year. But we can and must be realistic in managing our fiscal responsibility if the government is to remain solvent and if we are to avoid deficit financing. **[04:59]** In the weeks ahead, I hope to go into this, and other congressional matters, in further detail. However, for the moment, let me assure you that I will again, as in the past, anxiously look forward to your continued interest and guidance in legislative matters. More than ever before, the nation needs the help and encouragement of its citizens to the end that our mutual responsibilities may be satisfactorily carried out.

Mr. Kelly:

Thank you, Senator Frear. From the nation's capital, you have heard United States Senator J. Allen Frear in the first of his new series of brief reports 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 05:55]