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This Week In Congress Radio Address: Legislative Time Table for Congress, 1959 August 21
Speaker: Senator J. Allen Frear
Transcribed by: David Cardillo

[00:00]

Announcer: The Week in Congress, recorded on August 21st, 1959.

Mr. Kelly: From Washington, DC, 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. In one of the busiest weeks of the present session, but the Senate and House of Representatives have taken legislative action on a lengthy series of important items affecting both the domestic and foreign policies of the government. The accelerated pace of congressional activities which has kept the Senate in session both day and evening is indicative of the desire on the part of the nation's lawmakers to complete their work and adjourn. This is, of course, an understandable objective since it is important for Senate and House members to spend at least a portion of the next few months in their states and districts, not so much for political reasons as to ascertain the views of their constituents through the medium of personal conversations and discussions. However, as we move into the last full week of August, it appears less likely that Congress will finish its work before Labor Day. This situation could change depending on the speed with which the remaining portions of the legislative program are carried forward. As is generally known, there has been much discussion concerning the question of having Congress adjourn by the time the visiting Russian Premiere arrives in this country on September 15th. It was felt that otherwise, Congress might be more or less obligated to invite Mr. Khrushchev to address a joint session of its membership. However, I understand that since the Russian leader is not technically the head of the Soviet Union by virtue of the fact that there is a president of Russia, Congress would not be under any compunction to extend an invitation to Mr. Khrushchev. In the meantime, the Senate is anticipating consideration of Civil Rights legislation, appropriations for foreign aid, and the labor reform bill. Again this week, mail from Delaware has been unusually heavy, and for the information of the many people who are still writing, I want to express the view that a labor reform bill is almost certain to be enacted by Congress very shortly. On another legislative matter, I am highly pleased by the fact the Senate has adopted my amendment to establish a commission which would examine and recommend the proper rules and roles of the Federal and state governments in their respective areas of taxation. This proposal was motivated in part by the rising cost of state and local government and their inability to find sources of revenue because

of the impact of existing Federal tax laws. Essentially, this is a state's rights proposal and was included as a part of a bill affecting the taxation of interstate commerce, which passed the Senate on Thursday. Of all the major items of government business that transpired last week, perhaps the least controversial and, in fact, a pleasant one, was the proclamation of the President officially designating Hawai'i as the fiftieth state of the union. Thus, once again, and in the space of only a few months, another star is added to our flag, and the great Federal Union of States is further expanded. We of the first state warmly welcome the fiftieth and wish its congressional representatives and their new constituents continued success, happiness, and prosperity.

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]