

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.,
February 10, 1968.

Mr. JOHN M. MARTIN, JR.,
Chief Counsel, Committee on Ways and Means, Longworth House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I submit the following statement to the House Ways and Means Committee on the Administration's proposed travel tax program.

As a citizen of the United States I find myself quite revolted by the "travel tax" that the present Administration is proposing.

My wife and I have traveled extensively in the United States and have been overseas twice. The last time we went abroad we visited, among other places, Egypt, where they check the amount of money you take in, make you exchange it for Egyptian currency, and then make you give them an accounting when you leave.

Our entire group was disgusted with this type of bureaucracy and I thanked my lucky stars that I was born in a country where people could come and go with dignity.

A more unpalatable method of collecting taxes I cannot imagine for a United States citizen than to face an inquisition of how much money he is taking out of the country, how much he brings back, plus the other suggested frustrations outlined in current news articles.

If something must be done, and I do not believe it necessary at all if the government would cut down by a few billion dollars on the taxpayers' money they are spending overseas, why not do something basic like calling in all passports and reissuing them at \$50.00 each for a two year period?

I request that the Committee give thoughtful consideration to the proposals that are being made bearing in mind that this is *supposed* to be the "Land of the Free", not a police state.

Sincerely,

CHARLES F. BURNHAM.

PASADENA, CALIF.,
February 19, 1968.

Mr. WILBUR D. MILLS,
Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

MY DEAR MR. MILLS: No doubt you have received many letters concerning the proposed action which would curtail people from enjoying the fruits of their labors during the Sunset Days of life.

I personally have been traveling to different parts of the world since 1932 and I find the big majority of travelers are folks above sixty years of age.

They are people who have worked hard for many years and have saved their money for this great pleasure, and to enforce a curtailment on their privilege to spend their money for something that is a milestone in their lives just doesn't seem to be morally right.

I know many, many couples that I have met in various countries during my lifetime who were enjoying so much their one week's vacation, and a great number of these people are no longer living.

I hope that you will not be a party to any such legislation which will deprive these people who, instead of saving their money to leave to their heirs, have decided to see some of the other parts of the world before they pass on.

It is my privilege to have breakfast in Los Angeles with about 200 executives every Tuesday and last week the air was a little thick with criticism of the administration for even contemplating such legislation.

You and your committee, by opposing this legislation, could pass on to your Maker feeling that you had not thrown any obstacle in the way for people to receive this one big thrill out of life.

Cordially yours,

M. W. KELLY KELSO.

PASADENA, CALIF.,
February 22, 1968.

Mr. WILBUR D. MILLS,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. MILLS: I wish to respectfully register my opposition to the proposed restrictions on travel and travel taxes.