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lifO TilE SUBCOMMiftBB OR AlftiTRUST ARD RBSTRAilft' OF TRADE ACTIVITIES
AFFBCTIRG SMALL BUSIRESS

September 9, 1982

I have voted to allow Mr. Campbell to testify so that the

Committee could hear his views about Robinson-Patman

prices for consumer goods by spurring competition. The Senate

Report for the bill repealing Miller-Tydings stated:

Repeal of the fair trade laws was called for
by President Ford, consumer groups, the
Justice Department, the Federal Trade
Commission, the Council on Wage and Price
Stability, discount stores and smaller
business associations. Editorials in newspapers across the country unanimously favored repeal.

Opponents were

ntitrust law at odds with Supreme Court opinions. I do not
the sincerity of their beliefs or their right to try to
rsuade Congress to change the law. I do, however, have serious about their authority to try to change the law on their

n.

A related disagreement I have with the Reagan
dministration's policies concerns the distinction between !location of resources to the most significant or egregious ases of law violations and adopting a policy which de facto mmunizes certain conduct which is unlawful. For example, both he FTC and Justice should commit more resources on national orizontal price-fixing cases thau to local cases. However, to he extent that interstate commerce requirements are met, we ould never