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Welcome Statement Made at the Meetings of the National Tobacco Tax Association and the North American Gasoline Tax Conference

Strom Thurmond

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I wish to extend to each of you a warm welcome to Charleston and South Carolina. In this City and State, where history has so often been made in the past, you will find a progressive people. Here you will find dramatic evidence that South Carolina does not, as is sometimes alleged, live in the past. South Carolina looks confidently to the future.

During the past few years, our natural advantages and spirit of progress have come to be recognized in concrete fashion. Smokestacks are arising in increasing number in our State and this industrial trend will continue.

South Carolina is rapidly assuming its rightful place in the economy of the nation.

One of the most important inducements which can be offered is efficient and stable government. We have pledged to work toward this end. We are determined, as a matter of justice, that industry shall bear only a fair share of the tax burden.

We are delighted to have you in South Carolina and hope that each of you will have a pleasant stay here. If there is anything that I can do to help you during your conference, please let me know. We hope that you will return soon.