

STATEMENT OF J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF
SOUTH CAROLINA, ON USE OF STATE-APPROPRIATED
HEALTH FUNDS, JUNE 2, 1948.

The use of State-appropriated health and hospital funds for other purposes not connected with public health, is expected to draw the censure of Governor J. Strom Thurmond in an address to the graduating class of the South Carolina Medical College at Charleston Thursday afternoon, Capitol sources said today.

In its 1948 surplus appropriations the General Assembly provided \$1,890,000 for the construction of health centers and hospitals, for matching Federal funds for similar use, and for other health purposes.

However, some counties are reported planning the use of their portions of the fund for other than health purposes, thus taking advantage of a tiny phrase near the end of the Act which permits use of the money "for other public uses."

"I am positive the General Assembly intended this appropriation for health centers and hospital construction", Governor Thurmond told newsmen today. "On every possible occasion I shall urge our citizens to insist that the money be used for public health and not diverted to other uses."

Under the measures passed by the 1947 and 1948 Legislatures, a total of \$3,660,000 has been appropriated for hospital and health purposes, with each county receiving \$50,000 plus \$8,000 for each member of its county legislative delegation.