

STATEMENT BY J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF
SOUTH CAROLINA, AND STATES' RIGHTS PRESIDENTIAL
CANDIDATE, REGARDING DECISION BY PRESIDENT
TRUMAN NOT TO ACCEPT INVITATION TO VISIT SOUTH
CAROLINA, SEPTEMBER 28, 1948

I regret President Truman has seen fit not to accept the invitation to visit South Carolina. I had hoped that he would come to our State and explain to our people why he saw fit to betray the principles of Jefferson and abandon the historic position of the Democratic Party on States' Rights by sending his so-called Civil Rights Message to Congress.

Although President Truman has decided not to come to South Carolina, his running-mate, Senator Barkley, yesterday spoke in North Carolina. I am advised by the States' Rights Democrats in North Carolina that Senator Barkley did not even attempt to defend the so-called Civil Rights proposals of President Truman which were written in the Democratic platform at the Philadelphia Democratic Convention over which Mr. Barkley presided. Also, Mr. Barkley did not tell the people of North Carolina why he as Democratic leader, has supported and voted for cloture in order to enforce the modern-day force bills upon the people of the South.

The people of the South will not be duped. They know they have been betrayed by the National party organization to which they have given unswerving loyalty and they are going to make their protest heard in November. They are going to vote

for the only candidate for President, and the only candidate
for Vice President, who oppose the so-called Civil Rights program
and stand for state sovereignty and constitutional government.

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