4-10-1948

Letter to the General Assembly, April 10, 1948

Strom Thurmond
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
COLUMBIA

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE SENATE:
MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

I have decided to sign the so-called Deficiency Bill which has just been adopted by both branches of the General Assembly. In passage this Bill became converted in form and substance to a Second or Supplementary Appropriation Act, and is no longer a true deficiency measure. While I do not agree with the entire content of the Bill, it appears that the items it contains are relevant to fiscal affairs and are within the province of the General Assembly to consider in such an Act.

At the beginning of your first session, we entered together upon a comprehensive program to further the cause of good government in South Carolina, and to enable our State and our people to meet the solemn responsibilities and take full advantage of the opportunities facing our generation in the postwar period.

Now that the 87th General Assembly is drawing to a close, it is fitting that I acknowledge the splendid progress which you have made toward fulfilling that program and instilling character, honesty and efficiency in our State government.

You have passed many measures which will have a far-reaching effect upon the history of South Carolina. Progress has been made toward putting our governmental and economic house in order. The development of our State will depend upon the development of our natural resources and human values, and we are on the march toward these objectives.

Our people will expect the next General Assembly to continue the program which you have entered upon, and to carry on the work of enacting sound, constructive legislation necessary to meet the challenge of our age.

I have been particularly appreciative of the cooperation and many courtesies which you have extended to me as Governor. It is
by mutual cooperation of the separate branches of our State government that the people get the kind of public service which they have a right to expect from their public servants. I shall always stand ready to work in close cooperation with those who have the interest of South Carolina and our people at heart.

I wish for each and every one of you a safe journey to your homes, and I shall look forward to seeing you when you have occasion at any time to be in Columbia.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Strom Thurmond, Governor

April 10, 1948