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Letter to Democratic Party of South Carolina

Strom Thurmond

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You no doubt read the news stories from Washington to the effect that the Truman-Boyle forces were launching a campaign to capture control of the Democratic Party of South Carolina. There is no presidential election this year and obviously their desire is to dominate our state party machinery from without. Enclosed is a statement which I issued upon reading the story from Washington about this so-called grass roots campaign to capture control of our state party machinery on the precinct level.

There is no question as to where the real Democrats of South Carolina stand on the issues that confront us. All we have to do is to see to it that those who believe in the principles of the Democratic Party of South Carolina turn out to club meetings on March 25. As you know, at these meetings will be chosen the delegates to the County Conventions, who in turn will send delegates to Columbia who will fix the policies of our party for the next two years.

We must not underestimate our opposition. Those who are directing this campaign from Washington are politicians trained in the Pendergast school. Also, we face an unusual situation this year because of the Waring decisions.

I know how you feel on these all important questions facing us and I am suggesting that you start now making plans to get your friends out to the club meetings. Heretofore, not too much attention has been paid to these precinct meetings. This year we know that in many counties large scores of people who never have supported the Democratic Party of South Carolina will attend these club meetings.

Get your friends to the club meetings. Have them alert their friends and see to it that every club in your county is well attended by real South Carolina Democrats. If this is done, real South Carolina Democrats will be sent to the County Conventions with instructions that the County Conventions send to Columbia only those delegates who subscribe to the principles of the Democratic Party of South Carolina.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

Very truly,

J. Strom Thurmond
Governor

NOTE: This stationery was not paid for at State expense.