

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) ON SENATE FLOOR, JANUARY 5, 1956, ON TAX-EXEMPT AND AIR SAFETY BILLS.

Original manuscript - Strom Thurmond

Mr. President:

I send to the desk for appropriate reference/a bill which would deny tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code of 1954/to any organization which engages in the promotion of litigation to which it is not a party. This bill would also affect the tax status of contributions made to such organizations/by individuals or other organizations. Donors would not be allowed to deduct such gifts/in listing deductions on their income tax returns.

The bill would not affect legal aid societies/or similar organizations/which provide free legal services to persons unable to pay litigation costs. It would, however, apply to approximately 35,000 organizations/currently enjoying tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code.

Passage of this bill will be a positive step/to plug one of the loopholes in our tax laws. Our internal revenue laws require almost constant scrutiny and revision/to protect the Government and the taxpayer, and to prevent unfair discrimination in favor of certain organizations.

Allowing any organization/to spend thousands and millions of tax-free dollars/to promote lawsuits to which such an organization is not a party/is certainly not fair to the Government or other taxpayers.

I also hope the Internal Revenue Service/will keep a closer watch on all tax-exempt organizations/to make certain/the privilege of tax exemption is not being abused in any manner. Mr. Rose, Under-secretary of the Treasury Department, testified before a Congressional

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Committee last year/that the status of certain organizations was being reviewed.

Mr. President, I also send to the desk for appropriate reference/a bill which would ban the consumption or service of alcoholic beverages/aboard our commercial and service airliners. Legislation in this field is necessary/because the Civil Aeronautics Board has refused to issue an administrative order/against this hazard to commercial air safety.

Alcohol has a very detrimental effect on some people, and it could cause any person so affected/to disrupt the operation of an aircraft in flight, thus endangering many lives unnecessarily. Whether one sanctions drinking is not the question. The question to be considered/is the safety and welfare of all our citizens.

I have received many letters from persons all over the country/urging enactment of this legislation. I hope it will receive prompt and favorable action by the Congress/in the interest of public safety.

I also send to the desk for appropriate reference/three private relief bills.

Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent to have placed in the appendix of the Record/an article from the January issue of Harper's Magazine/entitled, "The Southern Case Against Desegregation."

This article was written by one of America's most outstanding newspaper editors, Mr. Thomas R. Waring, of the Charleston (S.C.) News and Courier. I share Mr. Waring's views/and I commend him for breaking the barrier/against publication of the Southern viewpoint in many of our nation's periodicals.

THE END