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## Statement on federal assistance for surviving Confederate veterans

Strom Thurmond

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STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND, (D-SC), FEBRUARY 3, 1956, ON  
A PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FOR SURVIVING CONFEDERATE  
VETERANS.

It has come to my attention that a bill has been introduced in the House of Representatives which would provide federal assistance to the three surviving veterans of the Confederate Army.

I am opposed to such legislation. Although no group is more worthy of help than these valiant soldiers who fought for the cause of the South in the War Between the States, such aid should be provided by each man's home State. This is an example of State responsibility which should be met in the fullest.

If a State fails to meet its responsibilities, it cannot complain of the invasion of States rights by the Federal Government. I believe in a State protecting itself against the encroachment of the Federal Government into matters of State concern by meeting its responsibilities promptly and adequately.

My views are in accord with the position taken by the South Carolina Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in this matter.