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News release on tobacco resolution by South Carolina Legislature

Strom Thurmond

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WASHINGTON--Senators Strom Thurmond and Olin D. Johnston of South Carolina today had printed in the Congressional Record a resolution from the South Carolina Legislature opposing any further reduction in tobacco acreage by the Department of Agriculture. It declared such action would be "ruinous financially" to tobacco farmers.

Pointing out that the tobacco acreage allotted to farmers this year had been cut 20 per cent below last year, and 40 per cent during the past 10 years, the resolution specifically urged the members of the Senate and House to "vigorously oppose any further curtailment."

The resolution stated that the Agriculture Department has cut production further "by at least one thousand pounds per acre by dictating the variety of tobacco that the farmer is allowed to plant."

A bill by Senator Scott of North Carolina which would further reduce tobacco acreage by limiting the poundage per acre prompted the resolution. It stated: "The position of Senator Scott may be understandable in view of the fact that the State of North Carolina has a greater tobacco allotment than any of the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Alabama."

Further it asserted: "The State of South Carolina cannot concede the right or justice of such a position in view of the cuts and reductions the tobacco farmer of this State has already suffered."

END