

NEWS RELEASE BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) ON S.1490, A BILL TO REQUIRE REGISTRATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES WITH THE ICC, APRIL 15, 1957

WASHINGTON--At a meeting of the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee Senator Strom Thurmond today blocked consideration of S. 1490, a bill which would require all motor carriers under the Interstate Commerce Commission to register annually.

Another meeting of the Committee probably will be held in May.

Senator Thurmond, joined by others, voiced his objections to the bill which has been condemned by the Farm Bureau and Grange, as well as other farm groups and small truckers.

The South Carolina Democrat pointed out in the Committee that:

1. The regulation is not necessary.
2. It would establish undue federal control over farmers who might cross State lines even once a year in their small trucks.
3. It would open the door to economic regulation of farmers and others engaged in trucking of their own products.
4. Such information as the bill would require is already available under the 1956 Highway Act for trucks weighing over 26,000 pounds.

When the bill comes before the Committee again in May, Senator Thurmond plans to oppose it. If a majority of the Committee favors it, he will offer an amendment which would conform with the 1956 Highway Act but which would not require farmers to be brought under additional red tape of federal regulation.

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