

PRESS STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC), FEBRUARY 11, 1958,
RE S. 3257, INTRODUCED BY SENATOR DOUGLAS, FEBRUARY 10, 1958.

Senator Douglas' so-called "civil rights" bill proposes for Congress to put the stamp of approval on the Supreme Court's judicial legislation of 1954 and 1955. This is equivalent to recognizing the Supreme Court as a third House of the Legislature.

The bill also would authorize a propaganda campaign by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to encourage school integration; would authorize special assistance to school districts judged to be compliant with federal dictates; would authorize the Attorney General to intervene in any area where an integration plan proposed by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare has been rejected; and would authorize the Attorney General to seek court injunctions in all so-called "civil rights" fields.

The bill is unconstitutional, obnoxious to the people of the South, and should be obnoxious to all true Americans who believe in constitutional government.

In the extended speech which I made on the Senate floor last August, I warned that the bill under consideration was only the first step, and that it would be followed by even harsher measures. I am more convinced than ever that the idea that there is to be any "cooling off" period is a delusion. The idea that agitators want cooling off periods implies a contradiction in terms. It appears that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and allied groups are going to continue to agitate for proposals of this nature.

I shall continue to oppose such proposals with all the vigor at my command.

-END-