The problems of our cotton farmers have been aggravated by the manner in which the Department of Agriculture has administered the Soil Bank plan for 1958. It was indicated that there was ample money appropriated to fulfill all Soil Bank contracts this year, but, when it came time for farmers to sign up for their allotments, quite a different situation became evident.

Farmers signed for allotments in the total amount of about $23,000,000, but the Department of Agriculture had earmarked only $13,000,000 for payment to the cotton farmers of South Carolina.

I believe that the Federal government has a moral obligation to fulfill all Soil Bank commitments. There is no fair way to spread out $13,000,000 to cover an obligation of $23,000,000. The only fair solution is a supplemental appropriation, and I have asked the appropriate committee chairman in Congress -- in the Senate and the House -- to give this proposal their most serious consideration.

-END-