

75-411

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND RECORDED FOR TELEVISION,
APRIL 17, 1958.

As approved by the Senate, the Community Facilities bill is completely ineffective as an anti-recession measure. Its enactment would be a serious blow to the small communities that the bill is supposed to help.

The bill provides that the Secretary of Labor, ^{in Washington} and not local authorities, shall set the wage scale for projects undertaken by communities with money borrowed from the Federal government. This means that big-city wage rates would be imposed on small-town economies, upsetting the local economies and substantially increasing the cost of the projects.

The program outlined by the bill would put the Federal government head and shoulders into the business of making loans that are now being made by private investors. The biggest and wealthiest cities of our country would be invited to share in a loan fund that should be set aside for the exclusive use of small communities that are unable to secure reasonable interest rates in the open market.

It will take at least a year to do the preliminary work that must be done before any construction is actually undertaken.

The bill does not encourage new community construction projects. As an anti-recession measure, it is a complete hoax.