

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) ON THE OFFERING OF AMENDMENTS TO THE MILITARY PAY BILL, S-3081, ON THE SENATE FLOOR, MARCH 17, 1958.

Mr. President:

In accordance with the statement of the Honorable Charles S. Rhyne, President of the American Bar Association, before the Stennis Subcommittee handling military pay legislation (S. 3081), that such general military pay legislation be amended to incorporate the provisions of two bills which I have previously introduced, S. 1165 and S. 1093, I have prepared and do now offer the substance of these bills as amendments to that effect, and ask that the amendments be referred to the Committee on Armed Services and be printed. These amendments will carry out the objectives of the American Bar Association as set forth in Mr. Rhyne's statement, which statement was placed in the body of the record on Friday last. That statement is fully descriptive of the urgently critical problems existing in connection with the procurement and retention of lawyers in the armed forces/whose professional services afford protection not only to the individual rights of our citizens, but also to the economic interests of the American people. In addition, I made a statement before the Stennis Subcommittee/and my study has revealed the critical nature of this matter. Unless some action is taken we will have arrived at a situation which will be impossible to correct. Within three years we will see practically all of the experienced lawyers leaving active duty, and we will not have qualified legal personnel in the military services/to protect the interests of the United States, either at home or

abroad/nor will they be available to protect the interests
of the boys we are drafting. I therefore urge that immediate
consideration be given to this problem.