

(12-8)

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) ON SENATE FLOOR IN
EXPLANATION OF HIS AMENDMENTS TO H. R. 12591, JUNE 23, 1958.

MR. PRESIDENT:

I wish to give a brief explanation of certain amendments to H. R. 12591, the Trade Agreements Extension Bill of 1958, which I sent to the desk for appropriate reference earlier in the day.

These amendments have two major purposes. The first is to limit the extension of the Trade Agreements Act of 1934, as amended, from five years, as proposed by the President and the House of Representatives, to a period of two years. The second purpose is to partially restore to the Congress its proper powers to regulate foreign commerce.

My amendments would require that the President obtain the support of a majority of both Houses of Congress before he could be sustained in his refusal to implement a Tariff Commission escape clause finding. The President would be given 90 days within which to gain approval through passage of a concurrent resolution of the two Houses of Congress. These resolutions would be regarded as privileged matter in order to insure that the Congress would act within the 90-day period.

If the President submits his report to the Congress when the Congress is not in session, or less than 90 days before the adjournment of the Congress sine die and no action is taken by the Congress prior to adjournment, then the adjustments in the rate or rates, quotas, or other modifications specified in the recommendations of the Commission would go into effect

provisionally until 90 days after the Congress re-convenes. If the Congress does not then sustain the President during the first 90 days of the session, the Commission's recommendations would become finally effective at the end of the 90-day period.

Mr. President, I request that the text of these amendments be printed in the Record at this point in my remarks.