

(83-48)

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC), CHAIRMAN
OF THE FAIR TRADES SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE, June 15, 1959.

Today we open hearings on the Fair Trade Bill, S. 1083, a bill that would allow all manufacturers or producers to set a price that the retailer must maintain. This represents the third time Congress has been called upon to act on this matter. We have previously enacted two Fair Trade Laws.

At the outset we must frankly recognize that this is a matter of considerable controversy. Extensive hearings on the House and Senate sides have revealed views both appealing and divergent.

It is my hope--and I know one shared by my colleagues on this Subcommittee--that the hearings we are now starting will provide us with concrete facts so that we can best fulfill our legislative function.