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Recorded statement by Senator Strom Thurmond (D-SC) to South Carolina broadcasters, sent with Bob Hurley of NBC, 1959 January 23

Strom Thurmond

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It is a genuine pleasure to be able to send with Bob Hurley my greetings to the South Carolina Broadcasters Association. I regret that I am not with you, but renewing many old friendships, but thanks to Bob and Mutual Broadcasting System and the tape recording medium it is at least possible for my voice to appear.

You gentlemen all know my sentiments where radio is concerned. With your cooperation, I am able to reach thousands of South Carolinians each week, telling them how I stand on the issues in the Congress. If I am representing the people properly, this can be an indirect assistance to me in politics. If I am taking stands which the people oppose, this can hurt my political career. But you gentlemen are performing a service in reporting the facts.

I am fully conscious of the wonderful job radio is doing throughout South Carolina today. There is no real overlap with television or newspapers. In fact, most of South Carolina radio stations are providing the only local, daily news and public service presentations, in their respective communities.

Your challenge to keep up the good work remains strong. I foresee nothing in the future that would de-emphasize the need and purpose of radio. And my experience with you gentlemen is a reassurance that the South Carolina Radio Broadcasters will continue to serve all South Carolinians well.