STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) ON MCCLELLAN BILL OF RIGHTS AMENDMENT TO LABOR REFORM BILL APRIL 24, 1959.

There have been gross exaggerations made in an effort to bring so-called civil rights questions into the McClellan bill of rights amendment to the Labor Reform Bill. It is quite true that the amendment, unless revised by the Senate, contains a provision for injunctive relief for violation of the provisions of the amendment.

This added nothing new to the bill, however. The same injunctive remedy, in precisely the same wording, is in Title I of the bill as reported by the committee and in the original Kennedy-Ervin Bill as introduced. Injunctive relief is also included in the trusteeship section of the Committee bill.

This power is subject to substantially the same objection of infringement on trial by jury as was the so-called Civil Rights Act of 1957, which labor union leaders, with the exception of one, backed and helped force down the throats of the South in Part IV of that Act, with respect to voting rights.

When the injunctive power was aimed at the union bosses for use by union members, however, these same bosses with horror. Their fickle position is untenable, and indicates a complete lack of good faith and an utter contempt for the rights of individual union members.

Nevertheless, I have pending at the Senate desk an amendment which would give the union bosses what they were, for the most part, unwilling for the people of the South to have--a right of trial by jury. Unless the injunctive section in the McClellan Amendment, and the injunctive sections in the Kennedy-Ervin Bill, are revised, I intend to call up my jury trial amendment.
This whole matter has been an attempt to mollify the union bosses for political purposes and to cause political embarrassment to a great American and Southern statesman, John L. McClellan, who has unflinchingly devoted his efforts to the best interest of the South, and the working man and the American public.

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