

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND FOR FILM CLIP, AUGUST 18, 1959

The radical integrationists may try this week to ram another so-called civil rights bill through the Senate in the closing days of the congressional session. Unless they can do so, the Civil Rights Commission will expire on November 9, 1959. It is very possible, however, that it may be ruled out of existence prior to November 9 by the courts because of its unconstitutionality, as I told the Senate in 1957.

Senator Hennings has offered a very vicious bill as an amendment to another bill pending on the Senate floor. It is patently punitive and anti-South in nature. There is little chance that it can win approval by the Senate. It can, however, serve as a very effective smokescreen to win passage of another type so-called civil rights bill. I intend to vigorously oppose all so-called civil rights proposals which are designed to impose the will of the do gooders and the integrationists on the people of the South. The people of South Carolina did not send me to the U.S. Senate to permit Northern politicians to remold the South to conform to an integrationist philosophy which Northerners are not willing to accept for themselves.

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