STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) FOR HIS WEEKLY RADIO BROADCAST OF SEPTEMBER 5-6, 1959. (RECORDED SEPTEMBER 3, 1959)

MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:

While I am preparing this broadcast, the Senate is considering the conference report on the Labor Reform Bill. After twelve days of heated debate back and forth, the conference committee, consisting of the ranking members of the Labor Committees of the House and Senate, finally agreed on a compromise Labor Reform Bill between the two different versions passed by each house. The Senate's Kennedy-Ervin Bill had some stronger provisions protecting the rights of the working people against the abuses of their labor bosses in internal union management. It contained little protection for the public and, in fact, carried with it some "sweetners" for the purpose of mollifying the labor bosses and strengthening their hands by repealing some 1947 Taft-Hartley Act provisions.

On the other hand, the House's Landrum-Griffin Bill contained some vitally-needed protections for the public and prohibitions against illegitimate union activities. It made no mention of the "sweetners" for the labor bosses, although its provisions against internal union abuses were not quite as effective as those in the Senate bill.

In arriving at a compromise version, the conferees strengthened the provisions of the House bill protecting the rights of the workers by borrowing some of the Senate language. One of the labor "sweetners" from the Senate bill was dropped, and the House prohibitions against
illegitimate union activities were modified by adding some exemptions for the unions. The final bill does not contain all that is needed to do the best possible job of protecting the public and our working people, but it does constitute a victory because it provides some effective labor reform measures which are vitally needed.

The achievement represented by this report is largely due to the untiring work of Senator John McClellan and his Labor Rackets Committee and to the American people from all walks of life who rose up and demanded from the Congress effective labor reform legislation. This proves that if the people make their voices heard long and loud enough, their wishes will prevail even against the potent political power of the labor union bosses from coast to coast.

Now that the vast majority of the people of this country are winning their battle for effective labor reform legislation, I hope that they will now turn their attention and efforts toward stemming the minority goal of forcibly mixing the races. During the past few weeks I have been calling the attention of the Senate to the mounting evidence that the great majority of the people of the country do not desire integration of the races. I read into the Congressional Record on Monday a lengthy article from The New York Times which reported that thousands of Negro parents are sending their children down South to get a peaceful and segregated education. I told the Senate that if the people of New York have so much difficulty with their schools and in maintaining law and order that the Negroes want to leave themselves, then how can their political leaders expect our
people in the South to bow to their political demands that we accept
an even more mammoth mess than their own people are willing to stomach.

I also read the Senate another article on Thursday/which further
proves my point about the sentiment against integration. It reported
that a large group of Negroes in Alabama/had wired President Eisenhower
that they do not want forced integration. They requested that he
instigate a poll of Southern Negroes, which they said would prove
their point conclusively. I told the Senate that this article presents
further evidence/that there is little or no sentiment for forced
mixing of the races in the South except by the few Communists we have,
some militant NAACP leaders, and a few other race agitators. I also
referred my colleagues to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover's book, Masters
of Deceit, which devotes an entire chapter to the Communist goal/
of exploiting the race issue to their utmost advantage.

This is Strom Thurmond in Washington.

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