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CONFERENCE TELEPHONE CALL, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1959, BY
SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC).

The Senate Agriculture Committee conducted hearings today /
on various proposals which would permit farmers /to rent cotton
acreage allotments within their counties. As a co-sponsor of
one of these proposals, I appeared and urged the committee /to
expedite its approval.

Under our proposal /the farmer with a small allotment who
deemed it unprofitable to farm /could obtain other employment /and
supplement his ^{employment} income /by ~~realizing rental~~ ^{ing} income from his ~~allotted~~
~~allotment~~ ^{acres}. A neighboring farmer who wanted to farm his ^{own} allotment /
could rent his neighbor's allotment and others /in order to obtain
sufficient acreage /to conduct an efficient and profitable
farming operation.

I told the Committee our farmers have been penalized too
long /for being efficient. One farm worker can produce food and
fiber for twice as many people today as he could in 1940; yet,
the farmer, rather than reaping rewards for this efficiency, finds
himself the victim /of inflation and government controls. I feel
that the passage of this legislation /will provide the opportunity
for all our small cotton farmers /to make a better livelihood.