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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 <sup>employment</sup> income /by ~~realizing rental~~ <sup>ing</sup> income from his ~~allotted~~  
~~allotment~~ <sup>acres</sup>. A neighboring farmer who wanted to farm his <sup>own</sup> 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.