STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
COLUMBIA

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE SENATE:
MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

As the present session comes to a close, I wish to express to the members of the General Assembly my grateful appreciation of your many courtesies to me, and also to congratulate you on the progress which you have made toward initiating and carrying forward the comprehensive program for our State and its future which I submitted for your consideration in my Inaugural Address.

Among other things, the splendid legislation for education and the establishment of area trade schools, illustrate the constructive progress which has been made. Furthermore, the legislation to make possible a real reorganization of our top-heavy State government has passed one house, and I feel confident that this vitally needed reform will be enacted into law at the next session.

The people of South Carolina are depending upon us, as their duly elected representatives, to enact those constructive measures which will help them in their struggle for a higher standard of living and a sounder economic structure. If we press onward with vigor and determination to complete as rapidly as possible the program on which we have embarked, we shall not fail them.

I wish for each and every one of you a safe and speedy return to your homes, and I shall at all times be ready to work with you and serve you for the good of our people. I hope that you will not fail to call on me whenever you happen to be in Columbia.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Strom Thurmond,
Governor

May 10, 1947
W. S.