

STATEMENT OF J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR, TO  
BE READ AT \$25-PER-PLATE DINNER OF STATES' RIGHTS  
DEMOCRATS IN SUMTER, S. C., AUGUST 27, 1948.

MY FELLOW STATES' RIGHTS DEMOCRATS:

It was a great disappointment to me when I learned that I could not be with you on August 27. My itinerary is now planned entirely by our National Headquarters, and it was decided to accept a speaking engagement in Arkansas on August 26, making it impossible for me to return in time for your meeting.

However, Mrs. Thurmond and I will be with you in spirit, and we want to wish you an enjoyable dinner and a successful occasion.

Since the plans for your dinner were first announced, they have been a constant source of encouragement to me. I am most deeply proud of the interest and enthusiasms shown by my friends in Sumter and my other fellow South Carolinians in the cause of State Sovereignty, and in the fight being made by Governor Wright and myself to protect the principles of government which are so important to us all.

We believe that issues are at stake which are fundamental to the American way of life, and to the maintenance of our traditions. We will not for a moment lay down our standards, regardless of the outcome. We will carry this fight through to the finish.

Again we thank you for your leadership in this cause, and for the fine cooperation you are lending in this worthy cause.

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