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Correspondence, John C. Stennis, February 13-19, 1948

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NOTARY PUBLIC

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW
NEW ORLEANS

February 13, 1948

FEB 16 1948

Senator John C. Stennis
Senator from Mississippi
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Stennis:

You may indeed be proud of your great state leading the fight against the pernicious civil rights proposals recently made by the president. The whole South has at last been stirred to its depths and will engage in an unrelenting struggle to preserve the institutions that are our gospel.

After yesterday's statewide session in Jackson I believe the national party chiefs will realize the state of Mississippi is not just talking. It now remains for all the southern states to follow suit so that we can force recognition by a united stand.

If this stand does not avail within the party then a Southern democratic party must be formed with our own candidate for president and vice president. We have the power and must use it.

The only other way to nullify the negro vote in the north is to amend the constitution substituting the election of a president on the popular vote alone. This would crush the bargaining power of the negro vote in New York and Chicago.

With all good wishes and assuring you of my wholehearted cooperation, I am

Very respectfully yours,

[Redacted Signature]

1. think this a good point.
2. thanks, write again.

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ALBERT L. SEIDEL, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

February 19, 1948

Civil Rights

Hon. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear [REDACTED]:

This will acknowledge your good letter of February 13th concerning the proposed civil rights program. I think the point you mention in regard to amending the constitution to place the election of the President on a popular vote is a good one.

I appreciate your letting me have your views on this matter. Let me hear from you from time to time.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

U. S. S.

JCS:RLI