

7-8-1955

Letter from John C. Stennis, July 8, 1955

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsjunction.msstate.edu/jcs-civil-rights-correspondence>

Preferred Citation

[Title], John C. Stennis Collection. Mississippi Political Collections, Mississippi State University Libraries.

This Letter is brought to you for free and open access by the John C. Stennis Digital Collections at Scholars Junction. It has been accepted for inclusion in Civil Rights Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Scholars Junction. For more information, please contact scholcomm@msstate.libanswers.com.

32-d

CARL HAYDEN, ARIZ., CHAIRMAN

RICHARD B. RUSSELL, GA.
DENNIS CHAVEZ, N. MEX.
ALLEN J. ELLENDER, LA.
LISTER HILL, ALA.
HARLEY M. KILGORE, W. VA.
JOHN L. MC CLELLAN, ARK.
A. WILLIS ROBERTSON, VA.
WARREN G. MAGNUSON, WASH.
SPESSARD L. HOLLAND, FLA.
JOHN STENNIS, MISS.
EARLE C. CLEMENTS, KY.

STYLES BRIDGES, N. H.
LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, MASS.
MILTON R. YOUNG, N. DAK.
WILLIAM F. KNOWLAND, CALIF.
EDWARD J. THYE, MINN.
JOSEPH R. MC CARTHY, WIS.
KARL E. MUNDT, S. DAK.
MARGARET CHASE SMITH, MAINE
HENRY DWORSHAK, IDAHO
EVERETT MC KINLEY DIRKSEN, ILL.
CHARLES E. POTTER, MICH.

EVERARD H. SMITH, CLERK
THOMAS J. SCOTT, ASST. CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

July 8, 1955

Personal

[REDACTED] Superintendent
Vicksburg Public Schools
Vicksburg, Mississippi

Dear [REDACTED]:

Recently I made a special and extended study of the two recent Supreme Court decisions on school segregation and have tried to think through as to their extended application over the years. Frankly, the only hope that I can see for any State or subdivision of the State to keep the schools separate will be to retain local or State control over the means of financing the schools.

I do not think there is any longer any chance to have Federal aid for the separation of the schools without having Federal control. I therefor cannot continue my support of Federal aid for education. There is some chance of a reaction in great areas of the country to the new program, but I seriously doubt this.

I am afraid the same situation applies to the appropriation of funds for school buildings. On the whole it seems to me that if there is Federal contribution, there is going to be Federal control or at least any State trying to fight for its right for separate schools would place itself in an untenable position to accept Federal aid even for the construction of schools.

I have given this matter a great deal of earnest consideration and wanted to let you know in advance my reluctant conclusions thereon.

I am more convinced than ever that the effort to keep the schools separate in our area is most worthwhile. As Chairman of the District of Columbia Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I had a fairly good look at what integration is doing for the City schools in Washington. They are greatly and rapidly

July 8, 1955

COPY
deteriorating in their educational standards from the impact of
merely one year of an integration program.

I hope that time is serving you well and that our paths will cross
before too long.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

John Stennis
United States Senator

JS:mkk