

5-10-1948

Correspondence, John C. Stennis, May 10-18, 1948

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LAW OFFICES

INDIANOLA, MISSISSIPPI

May 10th, 1948

Senator John C. Stennis,
Washington D.C.

Dear Senator Stennis:-

I have just read, with pleasure, your remarks on the anti-poll tax bill, Senate Calendar No. 1268.

I have been checking up on some of the former decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, both on the anti-poll tax and Civil Rights matters, and I have found that such matters are matters of States Rights, just as you have so clearly shown.

May I call your attention to an error on page 8 of your remarks, where you refer to the case of Purtle vs Brown, 118 Fed. 2d, page "118". The page on which this case is reported is "218" instead. I merely call attention to this error, because some opponent may take advantage thereof, at a time when you could not readily turn to the decision.

With person regards, I am

Sincerely,

FEE/e.

MAY 13 1948

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

May 18, 1948

[REDACTED]
Indianola, Mississippi

Dear Judge [REDACTED]:

I thank you very much for your letter of May 10th and the valuable correction regarding the citation.

I did not try to prepare a brief regarding the anti-poll tax bill as the Record already had several splendid briefs therein. Rather, I tried to prepare something in plain, simple language that the layman would understand. We lawyers make a great mistake in assuming that these matters are going to be passed on by minds trained in constitutional law. It was tragic to me to see this anti-poll tax bill passed on by the Rules Committee rather than the Judiciary Committee, as it was a perfect illustration of the need to have such matters passed on by a committee of men trained in constitutional law. It was altogether a political vote in the committee anyway, but still it would have been harder for men trained in constitutional law to vote for such a bill.

I invite and treasure your valuable counsel at any time and on any matter, and want to urge you to write again.

With all good wishes, I am

Cordially your friend,

U. S. Senator

JCS:eh

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Anti-Poll Tax