

3-10-1948

Correspondence, John C. Stennis, March 10-15, 1948

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[REDACTED]
Murfreesboro, Tennessee
March 10, 1948

Dear Senator:

Please note these fact about POLL TAX:

It does NOT prevent any one from voting--unless
that persosn prefers to spend from \$1.50 to \$3.00 on something
else. (This is so regardless of other views of poll tax)

There are white and Negro citizens who will spend
\$3 for a pint of whisky--which would pay the highest of the
poll taxes.

Some will pay \$1 in spring for the first watermelon
and that could go to poll tax.

So it goes. People simply prefer a few dollars
worth of some indulgence to voting. Nobody would go without
food, clothes or shelter in paying poll taxes--just go without
some embroideries of life. What is a vote worth?

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

5- I agree with you. Voting is a
Privilege and those who wish to
Vote can do so or just as they choose.
the real danger of the pending bill is Federal Population Control.
2 5 - 3

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

March 15, 1948

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your letter of March 10th. I agree with you. Voting is a privilege and those who wish to vote can do so or not as they choose. The real danger of the pending Anti-Poll Tax Bill is Federal police power to control elections.

Your advice and counsel are always welcome, and I hope you will continue to favor me with suggestions.

Sincerely yours,

U. S. S.

JCS:MVM