

8-13-1971

## Senator Stennis Civil Rights Correspondence B03F20L04

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August 13, 1971

Memorandum for Senator Stennis

From: [REDACTED]

Subject: Segregation Laws in the Southern States

The Library of Congress today provided me with the information you wanted on segregation laws -- repealed and still on the books -- in the Southern States. I'll give you a summary of the information and if isn't quite what you wanted, we can pin it down better next week after I talk to you.

The Library of Congress stresses that it did not have time to do an exhaustive study and did not account for every law dealing with segregation. They used a book (Pauli Murray's States' Laws on Race and Color) that listed all segregation laws in effect in 1950 and compared that list to changes that have taken place.

All eleven of the Confederacy states still have some segregation laws on the books. The number varies from 15 to as high as 56. In all of the states, some of the laws that existed before the 1954 Supreme Court decision have been repealed, eliminated in re-writing state codes, or modified by elimination of reference to race.

The attached chart will give you an idea of the numbers of laws repealed and still in existence; since the study was not exhaustive, the numbers are not necessarily accurate but are proportionally correct.

I looked separately at the education-related laws and discovered that five states still have constitutional provisions or statutes requiring segregation in the public schools. (The five states are Arkansas, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.)

I hope this information is useful, Senator Stennis, and that you will call me if I can help you further on this subject.

Segregation Laws - as of 1971

	<u>Repealed or eliminated by new constitution or code or modified to eliminate reference to race</u>	<u>Still on the books</u>
Alabama	5	44
Arkansas	23	38
Florida	53	6
Georgia	13	42
Louisiana	40	60
Mississippi	21	26
North Carolina	43	15
South Carolina	13	56
Tennessee	7	49
Texas	38	16
Virginia	75	32