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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

May 4, 1964

The Reverend Rhodes Thompson, Jr.
Pulaski Heights Christian Church
Hillcrest and Spruce
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Thompson:

This acknowledges your letter of April 28th.

I regret very much that I cannot comply with your request and support the so-called civil rights bill. I have already made three speeches--occupying some 11 hours of time--against it in the Senate. I shall continue to speak at length and in opposition to it. It is a vicious measure, and it should not be enacted into law. It will not serve the welfare of either race. If you will get a copy of this bill and study its full implications, I do not think you will want it passed with many of the provisions it now contains.

I wish to extend sincere greetings to you on becoming a resident of Arkansas, and I sincerely hope you will have a successful ministry in our State.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


John L. McClellan

JLM/jr