

McNEILL SMITH



**DEMOCRAT
for
U.S. Senate**

McNeill Smith

He Stood Up When The Times Were Tough

McNeill Smith is running to retire Jesse Helms from the U. S. Senate because North Carolina deserves better. While Jesse Helms spent the 50's and 60's denouncing the movement for civil rights and equal justice in the South, Mac Smith was standing up for what he thought was right.

In 1959, Mac Smith was appointed the first chairman of the North Carolina Civil Rights Advisory Committee. His committee held hearings across the state and its detailed report was among the first documenting systematic discrimination at all levels of North Carolina life.

When the first sit-ins occurred in Greensboro in 1960, Mac Smith played a major role in negotiating a settlement, which integrated the lunch counters. In 1963, he helped settle the disputes across the state over desegregation of hotels, motels, and sit-down restaurants.

The North Carolina Legislature was shocked by all of this protest activity and the active participation in the demonstrations by college students and professors. In reaction to this, they passed the Speaker Ban Law, to prevent certain classes of individuals from speaking on college campuses.

Mac Smith represented a group of student leaders who challenged the legality of the Speaker Ban. No other lawyer in the entire state was willing to help. A North Carolina federal court unanimously declared the law unconstitutional in 1968.

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In 1970, Mac Smith was elected to the North Carolina House of Representatives and two years later to the Senate. As a legislator, Mac Smith has continued his fight for human rights and equal justice. He was the chief sponsor of the statewide kindergarten program, led the fight for a new reading program, fought for a tough landlord-tenant bill and was the chief spokesman for repealing the sales tax on food and other tax reforms. Further, Mac sponsored the bill to save the Community Action agencies and fought for a strong sickle cell program.

As a member of the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association, the ruling body for all of the nation's lawyers, Mac has led the fight for affirmative action and against capital punishment. Under Mac's leadership, the bar filed a brief in the Bakke case declaring its support for affirmative action.

Recently, Mac Smith spoke out on another tough issue, the Wilmington 10. Mac wrote the Governor a letter and called to urge him to commute the sentences and release the prisoners. After the decision, Mac stated that the Governor was on the right track but had not gone far enough.

Mac Smith has spent his life fighting for justice and equality for all. He's stood up when the times were tough. Send him to the United States Senate to keep up the fight.

BE SURE TO VOTE ON TUESDAY, MAY 2nd

McNeill Smith for the U.S. Senate

HE STOOD UP WHEN THE THE TIMES WERE TOUGH

- McNEILL SMITH was the first chairman of the North Carolina Civil Rights Advisory Committee, 1959-63
- McNEILL SMITH played a major role in settling the lunch counter sit-ins in Greensboro in 1960 and the desegregation of hotels, motels, and sit-down restaurants in 1963
- McNEILL SMITH represented student leaders who challenged the Speaker Ban Law, which was passed in reaction to civil rights demonstrations in Raleigh. The law was thrown out by a federal court in 1968.
- McNEILL SMITH was the leader in the North Carolina Senate for statewide public kindergartens, landlord-tenant legislation, sickle cell programs, community action agencies, tax reform, and many other vital programs
- McNEILL SMITH fought for affirmative action and against capital punishment as a member of the House of Delegates of The American Bar Association
- McNEILL SMITH spoke out in favor of commuting sentences of Wilmington 10 and releasing the prisoners, both before and after the Governor's decision