

Novmeber 23, 1976

Mr. Chairman,

The general attitude that a salary of \$12,000 per annum for our legislators is much much too big. We have - heard complaints from the public hearings that we must reduce it. We have heard from our constituents and the general public that our generosity by recommending the annual compensation of \$12,000 for our legislators this generosity might prevent ratification of the Constitution by our people. We have heard complaints that the consumers will ultimately suffer. We have heard complaints after seven years when the U.S. Government's subsidy stops by draining this much money to our legislators, our Commonwealth Government will be broke, and that we have no other source of income to pay the legislators.

Yes, Mr. Chairman, I agree with those grievances. I agree with the general public that our legislature should not be an employment institution. I agree Mr. Public that our legislators are only thinking of themselves, that you Mr. Public had never taken advantage of your congressmen, that you had never knock at Senator Borja's door at 3:00 in the morning asking for money. I agree that you Mr. Public had never reminded Senator Herman Q. Guerrero of the coming election when you were asking Senator Guerrero to co-sign for you when applying for a loan at the bank. I agree Mr. Public that you always returned the \$500.00 that you borrowed from Senator Manglona. I agree with you Mr. Public that when Senator Rasa left for Guam to beg the Guam Legislature for free tuitions for your children who are attending school in Guam, that when Senator Rasa left for this purpose paid out of his own pocket, Senator Rasa was only thinking of himself. I agree with you Mr. Public that you never credited goods and commodities from Senator Cruz's store and even if you did, Senator Cruz had never come after you for the payments, and if Senator Cruz went after you for the payment, Senator Cruz is a bad man. Yes, Senator Cruz, you are only thinking of yourself, that's why your profits kept on going down.

I agree with you Mr. Public that after spending lots of money, even to the extreme of selling your properties, for the education of your children, your son who wants to be a congressman should be paid a low salary. I agree that your congressmen should not provide your family. A good home, that your wife is crazy for asking for an electrical stove, that you should complain at all if the bank repossess your car, that your children should not complain for their school supplies, that you should not save money for their education in the future, that you Mr. Congressmen should not have more than one child because you comment afford more than one child, because remember that Mr. Public will be knocking at your door for give me money, give me money.

Yes, Mr. Chairman, a congressman does not have to campaign nowadays. A congressman who is up for re-election does not have to spend money for his campaign. He does not have to entertain his constituents. A congressman should not be paid equitably to meet his social obligation.

Mr. Chairman, I object to paying our congressmen \$12,000 per annum. Let's give them nominal wages, since only the low calibre people will be in these. Let these low calibre people work out a plan for our new government, let them come up with a magic formula to carry us over and our future generations after the U. S. Government says, we promised to help you for seven years, now you are on your own. Let these second class quality of congressmen face the U. S. Congress to bail us out. Let them justify why we did not have a self-sustaining economy. Let them be rubber-stamps to the Governor because they don't know better. Let them legislate our laws, the kind of laws that will guarantee the bankrupt of our Commonwealth Government.

Nominal salary will tend to invite average capacity of people. Average capacity of people will produce an average work. Average work will be disastrous to our Commonwealth Government and commonwealth welfare.