

Surely this is what it was intended to be in the action taken on the floor. The fairness and fundamental justice of the action taken by the House will be judged by our demonstrating clearly that this was not the application of a special set of standards to one selected individual, but rather that it was action based on a finding that a particular individual had failed to meet the code of conduct expected of all of us.

It is of extreme importance that we demonstrate this fact to the people of America by acting swiftly and decisively in the establishment of this special committee on standards and ethics. We are already slow with such action. Our people will very much approve the establishment of this committee. Immediate action looking to its creation is imperative.

Mr. Chairman, if I may, I would add a few words other than the prepared statement I have already read.

Among the pieces of legislation that were introduced the other day were pieces of legislation and changes in rules looking to the creation of this sort of a committee and our group's unanimous stand with such a proposal.

We urge as strongly as we possibly can that you not, in effect, let this thing drag on as you study the question of whether there should be such a committee created so that, in effect, the idea dies and we would urge there be immediate action on this one point.

The legislation and change in rules proposed the other day by individuals of our group went into other questions. The question of nepotism, and the group varies as to whether there should be outlawing of nepotism or merely disclosure of nepotism. They went into the question of assets. There were those that said what should be disclosed, but the specifics here are also subject to variation.

I don't come on behalf of our entire group to push any one of these proposals in the area of nepotism and disclosure, but to push as strongly as I can, and this group can, the moving ahead with a meaningful committee that will get into these specifics, conduct analysis and couple the thinking of experienced members with the fresh thinking of some new members in moving forward and seeing what ought to be done.

I sat through prior hearings of this committee and one of the questions that was dwelt upon at some length was whether this should be a permanent committee. I think the chairman raised this question. Or should this be a temporary committee.

I defer to your judgment in this regard, but my feeling is ultimately this should be a permanent committee. Whether you get to this immediately, or over a transitional period, is something which you gentlemen know a great deal more about than I.

The question of whether this should be a new committee or placed in the hands of the present House committee is one I also heard a great deal of questioning of prior witnesses on.

On this I would urge you create a new committee. This is in no wise because the present House Committee on Administration could not study this. They possibly could and would do this particular thing. But if a portion of the reason for the creation of this committee is to demonstrate, as clearly and unequivocally as this House can, that we attach a high degree of urgency and high degree of importance to this particular study at this particular time, I think the message would come across to our people much more clearly if this