

them from participating in matters in which official duties have, or could have, a direct and predictable effect upon a private interest, as distinct from a public interest.

I also would urge consideration, and I know that this is something of a broad gaged approach, that Senators, Representatives, and employees of the Congress earning more than \$15,000 a year would file public statements revealing gifts, real estate holdings, creditors, and business enterprises in which they own stocks, bonds, or other securities, or are otherwise associated.

In the case of Members of Congress, these statements would also be published in hometown newspapers. A complete statement of income, I believe, including dividends and interest, could be filed with a joint committee charged with enforcing the code of ethics.

I think, further, any American citizen or Member, officer, or employee of Congress must be able to file charges of misconduct with a joint committee, and hopefully there would be counsel to such committee that would be independent, an individual who has distinguished himself in public service.

I think the principle here is that every American should be insured a sound forum for presenting allegations of misconduct of a serious nature.

In a still broader aspect, Mr. Chairman, I think what we must be concerned with is the right of any American to run for public office, regardless of his financial means, and I hope serious consideration will be given to election reform.

I think this is basic to ethics, and I think it is basic to the broader ethic that any American can serve.

Second, once a Member is elected, I would have much hope that he would be in a position to devote virtually full time to that office, and in one of the bills I am introducing today I would provide for increased allowances, where I think Members of Congress have not had adequate allowances, and in addition I would encourage an increase in salary.

I think a reasonable amount, something on the order of \$50,000, would help insure that no Member of the Congress would have to rely unduly on outside income.

I have had some privilege in serving in other areas, both in our Government and in private life, and I feel very strongly that we have no more important business before the Nation and this Congress. I think it is vital that the Members of this Congress have adequate salaries so that they can fairly discharge and devote their energies to the good of the Nation.

By way of summary, Mr. Chairman, I hope the committee in its wisdom will report out a bill providing for a separate and standing committee, preferably a joint committee of the House and Senate, but in any event a House committee.

Second, I hope this bill will provide clear conflict-of-interest provisions.

Third, I hope this committee will in addition, in its wisdom, decide to work out a reasonable and sound full-disclosure bill. I think this will go as much as anything to the heart of the problem. Again, Mr. Chairman, I want to thank you for your courtesy.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.