

Barry McKay

FW: Independent Citizens Commission [#48]

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Of most interest locally (Hot Spring County) are the salary increases proposed. It is peculiar that the word "salary" not "compensation" is addressed in the proposal of increases in salary. Of course, "compensation" includes the components of: salary, pension, health / dental insurance and expense accounts. Most curious on how the "compensation" compares with the median "compensation" of the constituents whom pay for the representatives "compensation". Ya know, my friend Ricky builds houses. His salary does not include the elements of "compensation". Those elements must be subtracted from his "salary" to get a weighted (ya know fair) view of his "compensation". So how much financial disparity should there be between elected representatives and those Arkansas citizens that pay the elected representatives "compensation"?

Claudia Miller

FW: Independent Citizens Commission [#46]

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You want to give a legislature a salary who is a part time employee, with generous traveling reimbursement to receive a salary of a full time employee plus all the perks.
You have to be kidding me.

FW: Independent Citizens Commission [#47]

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You have to be kidding me.
Not a Penny More for a Salary !!!

Kenneth Polk

FW: Independent Citizens Commission [#49]

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The Independent Citizens Commission's recommendation is ridiculous! You can't justify the increases propose no matter what comparison is used for this study. Unfortunately, the people of the state of Arkansas voted for t politically infused panel of citizens. Shame on us, the citizens of Arkansas for voting for this committee.

This proposal included an overview of the current economic status of the state from Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration. Is this the same office that completed a study of the current economic status of Arkansas to justify a meager 1% COLA for state employees, who for the most part are full time personnel and who haven't received any substantial increase in their salaries for years!

Here is one rationalization used by the commission, "To provide the state with the best leadership, the Commission wanted to balance the need to attract and retain highly-qualified public officials with the need to maintain Arkansas's historical and constitutional commitment as a citizen's legislature and to the spirit of public service." Is the commission saying that the current appointees and legislative members aren't qualified for their positions they're holding?

I've looked at the proposed pay increases of 60 to 100 percent and I can't comprehend any justification for this proposal. This is outrageous and a slap in the face of the citizens of this state. I personally regret voting for the establishment of this committee. I'll be disappointed if any legislative or judicial member even accepts this sala increase.

Charles Widmer

Pay Raises for State Legislators, Elected Officials

Dear Independent Citizens' Commission,

I apologized for the tardiness of this correspondence. I just found a contact for your committee. I feel that this commission has reached far beyond it bounds. Approving Pay Raises ranging from 11% To 145% is reckless and exorbitant.

I received no pay raise 2010 through 2014 what so ever. In January 2015 I received a 1.7% pay raise. The citizens of the State of Arkansas are in dire straits and you are raising pay like money grows on trees.

How you can recommend the Governor receive a raise of 64%? Or the Attorney General receive a raise of 77%? Even worse State Legislators received 143%? Pay Raises this excessive are unheard of in today's economic environment (if ever appropriate). This is a classic example of giving out the raises and taxing the li people to pay for them.

Could you please forward me a copy of the members of the Independent Citizens Commission and the minute: of each meeting? This request is made under the Freedom of Information and/or Privacy Acts, if needed.

Thank You for your time,

Charles Widmer
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North Little Rock AR 72116
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