

nature on our part, human nature on the parts of the press to criticize but I am appalled at the lack of understanding of the work of this body. Very few people realize the amount of effort that goes into the work here, and very few people understand that it is virtually a year-around job. There isn't any person, there isn't any professional person who can serve here without committing a sacrifice. There isn't any business person who can serve here without losing a substantial portion of their business, and there isn't any laboring person who can serve here and live on the kind of emolument which is forthcoming. Unless something is done differently, the time will come when there will be other means undertaken to compensate legislators, and then there will be wringing of hands and gnashing of teeth and wailing in the cloakrooms, and it will be unfortunate. My principal concern with the \$12,000 salary is this, and I want to go on record, the \$12,000 salary is adequate for my young son who just gets out of school. He takes a look around and he says, well, let's see, old so-and-so done there is about ready to retire. I haven't been making any money. Now I can make \$12,000, \$15,000 a year as a state senator and maybe I could build a career. So without any experience or without any training, that young man or woman can come in here and serve. Or else a person like myself who is getting pretty well down the western slope, and I say, well, mom, you know, I am only going to make about four or five hundred bucks from my social security.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I can go down there and I can pick up another 1,000 or 1,200 bucks a month and we can get a free meal now and then and we can live pretty good. That way we will have represented on this floor the two extremes who are the least embodied in the day to day process of earning a living and understanding what goes on. The broad spectrum of people from the 25, 30 to 55, 60 group who ought to be involved, the ones who need to earn a living and support families, are probably going to be denied, and I think it is unfortunate that we lock into the Constitution for another 20 years a salary which is barely adequate at this time and which will not be adequate at all within a few years. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Wesely, then Senator Vard Johnson.