

3-15-2015

To the Independent Citizens Commission:

I thought the commission was to protect the citizens! Wrong! The tax payers of ark are knifed in the back again. The proposed pay raises are ludicrous!!

The newly appointed/elected haven't even proven themselves!! No one needs a pay raise just because somewhere, someone is getting the ridiculous pay for sewing their government. Most of "them" have income from other sources!!

The majority of us want less tax increases and less state government.

Who is on the Commission and is their background suitable for the state of ark? Your act of stopping the expense reimbursements was good but then you just popped over to higher pay. Oh boy, it was too much to begin with!

were the commission members paid?

Hope not! How were you chosen?

The amendment 94 was not fully stated at the election, in my opinion.

No one, or the majority of citizens do not get pay raises like your proposal!

Public meetings should be in more places around the state and not in the winter time!

Why didn't you get rid of the reimbursement of the House + senate committee chairs??

Your proposed pay raise did not help me the citizens.

I would have cut the pay in half and the reimbursement by three fourths, and then we would know who wanted to serve the citizens!

Sincerely

Pat Perona, 15850 Sheffield Rd, Sibon Springs, Ark

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*Cynthia Hester*

FW: Independent Citizens Commission [#56]

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On 3/17/15, I read a article in the Arkansas Democrat Gazette "Vote cements raises for judges, legislators." I was surprised to read Bank's comment,"You're not ignoring public comment. None of us are. The truth of the matter is...the vast majority of the public that is not commenting...is reasonably satisfied with this."

Most Arkansans who are working, do not have time to attend your meetings or comment. It is imprudent to ju to the conclusion that most Arkansans agree with the pay increase. That is not a statistically valid assumption. Most of us were lucky if we got a 1% - 2% raise last year. It seems irresponsible to me for this Commission to increase salaries by 50%+ for elected officials. You should listen to the comments and emails you received.

*Jane Kilgore*

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HYPERLINK "mailto:JJacksrn@aol.com"JJacksrn@aol.com  
No, just no.

*Joe maynard*

FW: Independent Citizens Commission [#52]

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Unfortunately, the enabling legislation and subsequent constitutional amendment was slipped past the people with a. deceptive ballot title language and b. Three issues packed into a sweet sounding wrapper.

If the legislature wants a full time job, they should move to another state that is not at the bottom of the barrel because of their previous action or get a job that has some accountability and pays what they are worth there. We need better officials, not better paid people that cannot perform at any price. The people want accountability from those who wish to increase their share at the public trough and this act surely does the opposite of what was advertised.

Shame, shame, 150% increases for the people that select the "board of increasers"?

A supreme court that ignores the breaking of laws as immaterial, really? They are already paid beyond most comparable states and should be reduced, not increased.

Get in line, big government operators, it's feeding time in Arkansas!

*John Williams*

FW: Independent Citizens Commission [#55]

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Let's see if I understand the increase in legislator's pay correctly. Their pay will go up 148%. Other elected officials pay will go up at least a similar amount. Where is this money coming from? Maybe this is why it is so difficult for them to find adequate funds for other government obligations such as education and highway maintenance/improvement.

Having passed Amendment 94 to the State Constitution in a good faith expectation that an independent commission would use good judgment and common sense in setting salaries for elected officials, we the people got shafted again. The Commission definitely has not met my expectations and legislators who support this action will surely need to think about how they will justify such increases during the next election.

*Lance Walters*

FW: Independent Citizens Commission [#54]

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What a sham and kick in the guts to the citizens of Arkansas. Thanks for taking the public comments into consideration. Total joke! Good ole boy 1800's politics lives on in Arkansas. So disappointed that citizens we not represented at all. No big deal it will probably just effect a child or elderly person needing some vital servi since no one can tell us where this money will come from. Bravo Commission, Bravo!