

A LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM CONGRESSMAN DENNIS A. ROSS

CLEANING UP CONGRESS STARTS WITH MAKING MEMBERS ACCOUNTABLE

Dear Neighbor,

The hypocrisy from Washington must stop!

Members of Congress have made it commonplace to pass laws and regulations and then exempt themselves from the very same rules and regulations they just passed.

It's disgusting and now is the time to stop it.

For the first time in my 12 months in Congress, I can actually see progress on meaningful legislation that will begin to tackle the hypocrisy in Congress.

Three issues, which I believe, will help clean up the double standards of Congress.

BANNING INSIDER TRADING BY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Why is it that members of Congress can trade on Wall Street using insider information, but if you were to do the same thing you would go to jail?

It's wrong. It's outrageous. And it must stop.

I was the first Republican in the entire House of Representatives to co-sponsor this bill with my friends across the aisle.

The bill makes it illegal for members of Congress to participate in insider trading.

It's a common sense law that should be signed by the President immediately and I hope you'll take the time to voice your support for this bill so I can express that to the White House myself.

ENDING SWEETHEART PENSIONS FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

You've probably heard or read about how generous the pension benefits members of Congress receive are and how quickly they vest in their pensions.

While there are many myths about Congressional pensions, the truth is members receive better benefits and an earlier vesting period than even federal workers.

That's why I've introduced legislation that will reform Congressional pension in several ways:

1. Make members of Congress pay into their own retirement – just like an overwhelming majority of private-sector workers
2. Increase the amount of time it takes for members to vest into their retirement

3. Increase the age at which members of Congress can begin to collect their retirement

4. Ensure no member is treated better than any worker in the private sector

Again, these are real, common sense reforms that you've expected from Washington for years now, but have yet to see.

But I'm happy to report to you that several days ago the President signed this bill into law and now Congress will be held to the same pension rules it sets for others.

FREEZE SALARIES FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

All we hear from Congress is "we must tighten our belts".

That should apply to members of Congress as well.

I've sponsored a bill that just passed the House of Representatives to freeze the salary of members of Congress and federal workers.

Did you know we spent over \$450 billion last year on federal salaries and benefits?

That's more than we spend on Veterans Affairs, Transportation, Education, and the Departments of Justice and Education – COMBINED!

Now is the time to freeze pay across all government agencies, and it starts with members of Congress!

All three of these bills seem to me, and you, like common sense steps that we can take to reform the hypocrisy we see day in and day out from Washington.

But even though these ideas seem like common sense, many will not be signed into law easily.

I hope you'll take the time to call into my office and let me know what you think about these bills.

Each and every phone call we receive, for or against, helps me go to other members of Congress, Senate leaders, and the President to show how much we desperately want to see actual change in Washington D.C.

These past twelve months, it has been the honor of a lifetime to represent you, and any ideas, comments, questions or suggestions you may have, I welcome you to call our office at (202) 225-1252 or (863) 644-8215.

All the Best,



Dennis A. Ross
Member of Congress



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Call Today and let your voice be heard on the 3 Bills to hold members of Congress accountable:

1 Ban Insider Trading

(H.R. 1148)

PASSED HOUSE & SENATE
WAITING FOR PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE

2 End Sweetheart Pension for Congress

(H.R. 3813)

**PASSED & SIGNED
INTO LAW**

3 Freeze Congressional Salaries

(H.R. 3835)

PASSED HOUSE
WAITING FOR SENATE APPROVAL
AND PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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