

October 2, 1998

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O-CYUW

Greetings:

I have long been a viewer of C-SPAN . For many years now I have watched the daily sessions of the U.S. House of Representatives on C- SPAN . I appreciate having the sessions aired. However I must state I deplore those elected officials in the House that do not actually attend the House sessions when the nation's business is being debated. It is a sorry situation when the chair in the House must make a quorum call to get our elected representatives to come to the floor of the House.

I fully understand that Article I, Section 5, paragraph one of the Constitution of the United States gives to both the House and Senate the authority to make their own rules concerning the presence of their members in their chambers when the nation's business is being debated. But like myself I do not believe the American people would be too elated if they tuned in to watch either house in session and found nearly an empty chambers. For the few number of elected officials which actually attend debates in either House of Congress it would seem to me that these sessions could be held in a much smaller chambers, and then the members could cast their votes in a small voting booth much the same as we Americans use when voting in elections. (End of the first comments)

Now I want to make some comments about the present ongoing investigation of the President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton.

The Starr Report which has been handed to the House Judiciary Committee on the activities of the president is a very serious matter. Possible impeachment of the president is a matter that should be debated judiciously by the House Judiciary Committee. The debate should not be a public forum as it has become by members of the House Judiciary Committee or even by those elected officials which may have to vote on impeachment or the removal from office of the president. Each member of the House will be part of a "jury panel" that will set in judgment of the president on the matter of impeachment. If the House impeaches each member of the

Senate would become members of a "jury panel" that would decide if the president should be removed from office. These duties of members of either house of Congress should not be taken lightly.

Now I understand fully the present situation is not being handled in a court of law where certain restrictions are placed on juries; i.e. discussing evidence outside of the court room, or discussing a case with the media, or disseminating to the public as to how a juror will vote on the verdict in a case. However in all fairness to the President of the United States all public discussions of the particulars or evidence involved should not be discussed by any elected official.

Therefore it is my belief that any elected public official which has disseminated to the public in any way their belief as to the outcome of the investigation should reclude themselves from voting on impeachment or the removal from office of the president.

Finally, for months I have tried to call in and state the above positions on Washington Journal. I have not been successful or I would have not sent this letter. I would like to see and hear these two matters discussed on Washington Journal.

Thanks for C-SPAN. This nation's most informative political venue.

Sincerely,

