

February 7, 1957

Congressman John E. Fogarty, Democrat of Rhode Island, has introduced in the House of Representatives today a bill providing for an increase in pay for employees of the Federal Government. This bill, according to Fogarty, would raise the salaries of civil service employees to a level which would compensate for the soaring rise in the cost of living.

Fogarty stated that in talking with many of his friends in federal service in the State of Rhode Island he found that many of them have been forced to take outside employment in order to make ends meet. Others have been put in the position of having their wives seek work outside the home in order to supplement the family income. "In my opinion," said Fogarty, "this indicates that we, in Congress, have not accepted our responsibility in providing adequate wage scales for our federal employees. What the situation demands is a substantial pay increase now - not months in the future."

Fogarty's bill would increase each federal employee's compensation by 10 per cent of the amount up to \$2500 per annum, plus  $24\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of that part which is in excess of \$2500 but not in excess of \$10,000. It would also provide that persons promoted to a position in a higher grade would receive corresponding salary increases.

Fogarty in presenting his bill stated, "I want to emphasize my conviction that all federal employees merit an increase. They should be given the same consideration as employees of private industry have received."