

## A Plea of Everyman

Dear Representative Smith:

Dear Senator Cornyn:

Dear Senator Hutchinson"

I wonder if you can imagine what it is like for a "regular guy" like me that reads in the paper or hears on the media daily about important legislation that could be of great benefit to the citizens of the US. Inevitably we hear that beneficial legislation has the full lobbying power brought to bear. Seems it's so often the people vs. AT&T or NRA or any number of lobbyists working for the benefit of their company without really and truly considering whether or not it's of actual benefit to the US citizens. We've lost far too many of the votes in these past several years to lobbyists. Please know that the heart and soul of your constituents, as well as the rest of America's "regular guys," have grown utterly weary and despondant. We're ready to give up. We really can't seem to stem this tide. And while we want our country's laws to follow the will of its people, that seems to only happen rarely, or by some fluke these days.

Can you hear the pleas of guys like me that love this country, but have had their hearts broken so many times by our congress? Do you ever have those quiet moments when you feel guilty? Can you honestly wake up every morning and say "Today I did the right thing for those people who trust me and voted me in office?" Honestly, there's so little hope any more that the people of this country will ever be heard over lobbyists. It's become the norm to read of critical votes swayed for reasons other than for the country's citizens benefit.

I go to my computer like an automaton, and write you, knowing you'll never really read what I write, knowing I'll never get a response, but trying anyway. Am I a fool for trying? For caring? I just know I'm not alone. So many "real people" feel this way. Some still have the fight in them, God bless 'em. I've lost my fight. Now all I have left is hope. But that's all but left me, too. Now it's dwindled down to little more than a last nerve twitch on a dying animal. An animal that can't go on any longer. That's given up. Congress member's deceit, arrogance and condescension shown toward their constituents has broken our hearts.

I'm no crazed zealot or nut. I'm a real guy that's had a wonderous career in this country. I owe it a lot. And I'm trying to give something back by writing you and begging that you please, please think of all those people who still have love for your country, and still wake up and go to work every day. And pathetically, trying to make our contributions to this country. Still trying to make things better. Still believe in a system that once represented the citizens, but now obviously has mutated into an organism which is made up of a few hundred men and women so focused on getting re-elected and keeping their status and power, that they all seem (Yes! they ALL seem) to have lost their sense of

what really matters here. What matters is this country. In the big picture, we all know lobbyists are ultimately the enemy of your constituents.

Please think closely about these words, and the real pain and lost hope behind them. Congress can restore our hope, if they can schmooze their way into being re-elected for another term of status quo, ad infinitum. It just seems that what's good for our congressmen is no longer good for our country. I wish to God that you would try and prove me wrong.