

Jo Ann Stone to me

Aug 15

To who it may concern,

I am totally appalled at the complete nerve of suggesting the law makers of New York should receive a pay raise of 47%. That is such a slap in the face of the people they supposedly represent. The majority of retirees received a 0.2% raise in social security in 2016, the main income of most of the seniors receiving this earned benefit they worked for and had money taken from their paycheck. I have seen Social Security referred to as a benefit but it is their money.

New York is so highly taxed and poorly managed, the lawmakers earn a very good wage for a part time position and so many perks. I could see a slight wage increase if it was full time and that was their only job but it is not and the benefits they receive put them well above those whom they work for, the residents of New York State. The significant raise they are proposing would put them number one in the country for pay above California and Pennsylvania.

"We face one of the highest tax burdens in the country. More people leave upstate New York than move into it. In the past ten years, 30 lawmakers were charged or convicted on corruption." quoted from WHEC. Speaker Carl Heastie says he deserves a raise. He should never be voted for again with that attitude.

No wonder our young people are leaving the state, they can't afford to live here and there are very few opportunities to be successful.

Do not allow this pay raise to go through, it is wrong on so many levels and shame on those lawmakers who believe it is deserved at such an extreme rate.

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