Anchorage, Alaska
July 10, 1953

Honorable E. L. Bartlett
Delegate to Congress, Territory of Alaska,
c/o House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The undersigned residents of indicated states and/or territories herewith protest pending legislation relative to disallowance of territorial cost-of-living allowances for local hires of government agencies. It is requested that you initiate every possible action to eliminate such discriminatory and costly legislation. It is further requested that you advise members of Congress representing states in which the undersigned are residents of their protest in this matter. Legislation of Sec. 640, DOD appropriation bill (HR 5969) for FY 1954, and as approved by PL-91 against temporary authorizations for DOD, will result in (1) different rates of pay for employees who have similar positions and the same cost of living (2) loss of trained employees who will not be able to work for the government at the drastically reduced rates of pay (3) tremendous disruption of morale in all government offices in Alaska, and (4) extensive costs for recruitment of replacements from the ZI.

Present living costs are known to be approximately 50% in excess of the state side costs, yet this legislation tends to indicate that the cost of living for local residents is no greater than that for residents of the United States.

The DOD was recently authorized to change non-citizen (alien) employees to a LGS scale for salary purposes. The salary is based on an hourly wage rate which in Alaska parallels the GS scale plus 25% TCLA for comparable positions. This provides that aliens will receive a higher rate of pay than resident American citizens if this section of the DOD bill is approved.

The personal hardships created by this legislation will be without number and will affect the lives of many American citizens and veterans for many years to come. It is respectfully requested that you and your colleagues of whom the following are constituents exert every effort to eradicate this blot from the records of the Congress of the United States and to provide justice to all citizens regardless of place of residence. Confirming signatures of the following addressees will be forwarded by letter.