Hon. Homer E. Capehart, Chairman
Committee on Banking and Currency
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

My dear Chairman:

A resolution introduced on January 16th this year by twenty-seven Senators including myself (Senate Resolution 38, to create a Select Committee on Consumer Interests) has been referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

As you know, an identical resolution was introduced in the last Congress by twenty-four Senators and was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. The Rules Committee considered this Resolution during the Second Session of the 82nd Congress, held extensive public hearings on it, received testimony in favor of it from a large number of national organizations representing millions of consumers, and voted to report it favorably to the Senate on June 28, 1952 (Senate Report No. 1982). Unfortunately, insufficient time remained for a vote to be had by the full Senate prior to adjournment last summer.

This year a new resolution in identical terms was introduced but was referred to the Banking Committee instead of to the Rules Committee. The matter was brought to the attention of Chairman Jenner of the Rules Committee who undertook to determine if you would release the measure for referral to his Committee. We were informed that you wanted to retain the resolution for consideration by the Banking Committee.

The sponsors of S. Res. 38 consider it urgently necessary to secure action on our resolution with the least possible delay, particularly since a great number of citizens, both through organizations and individually, is insisting on adequate representation of the consumer interest in the legislative process. On behalf of the resolution's twenty-seven sponsors, therefore, I am writing to request that your Committee give early attention to this measure. I hope that public hearings may be held on S. Res. 38 as soon as it is convenient for the Committee to make arrangements for them, in order that we may obtain a decision by the Senate at the earliest possible date.

I am sending copies of this letter to each member of your Committee, as well as to each of the co-sponsors of the resolution.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

Guy M. Gillette

February 6, 1953