Honorable Herbert H. Lehman  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Lehman:

Attached is a copy of S. 913, which I introduced in the 82nd Congress to create a Joint Committee on the Budget. You will recall that this measure after considerable debate passed the Senate on April 8, 1952, by a vote of 55 to 8. Later, in the closing days of the session, a motion in the House to take up a similar bill by Congressman Colmer of Mississippi failed by a majority of only 15 votes.

You supported the bill on final passage in the Senate last year. I expect to re-introduce it within the next few days, and I would be pleased if you will become one of the co-sponsors of it.

I am sure you are in general agreement with the objectives of this measure. This reform and the services to the Congress that it would provide are greatly needed, and I believe are essential to the effective performance of the duties of Congress and its responsibilities with respect to public expenditures. Unless the Congress equips itself with facilities whereby it can more accurately evaluate the Federal budget and intelligently appropriate public funds, waste and extravagance will not be eliminated.

If you are willing to become a co-sponsor, please advise me right away.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

John L. McClellan

JLM:ke

Attachment