

Millionaire Sean Casten called his \$174,000 Congressional salary “peanuts” and asked for a pay increase.

Sean Casten is a Millionaire:

- **As Of December 31, 2018, Casten’s Net Worth Was Between \$894,048 And \$4,009,999.** (Sean Casten, [2018 U.S. House Personal Financial Disclosure](#), Filed 6/14/19)
 - **Casten Has Between \$1,894,048 And \$4,510,000 In Assets.** (Sean Casten, [2018 U.S. House Personal Financial Disclosure](#), Filed 6/14/19)
 - **Casten Has Between \$500,001 And \$1,000,000 In Liabilities.** (Sean Casten, [2018 U.S. House Personal Financial Disclosure](#), Filed 6/14/19)

Sean Casten complained about his \$174,000 Congressional salary, referring to it as ‘peanuts’:

- **In June 2019, Casten Said He Supported Raising The Current Congressional Salary, \$174,000, By \$4,500, And Compared It To “Working For Peanuts.”** “Rank-and-file members of Congress currently make \$174,000 annually. [...] Lawmakers are slated to receive a 2.6 percent, or \$4,500, increase in January 2020. [...] Some swing-district Democratic freshmen, including Reps. Dean Phillips (Minn.) and Sean Casten (Ill.), say they’re prepared to defend the pay raise as a way to help attract the best people to Congress. Both pointed to their business backgrounds where annual cost-of-living increases are typical, arguing Congress shouldn’t be any different for members and, consequently, their staff. ‘I want to be able to attract the best and brightest to this job, because that’s how I ran my company. When I ran my company, I paid a competitive wage. I didn’t tell people, come here because you’re so committed to our mission that you’re willing to, you know, sleep on your friend’s couch and work for peanuts. It’s horrible that we force people to do that,’ Casten said.” (Cristina Marcos, “Swing-State Democrats See Trouble In Proposed Pay Hike,” [The Hill](#), 6/6/19)