

## **As County Executive, Tom Suozzi Proposed Hiking His Own Taxpayer-Funded Salary By 60%.**

### **In October 2007, Suozzi Proposed A Large Salary Increase For Countywide Elected Officials In His 2008 Spending Plan, Including A 60 Percent Pay Hike For Himself.**

“Responding to the recommendations of a blue-ribbon panel, Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi proposed a large salary increase for countywide elected officials in his 2008 spending plan this week. On Wednesday, his methods were questioned. Suozzi did not mention a proposed 60 percent pay hike for himself and others during his news conference Monday, nor did he include the information in the summary budget book distributed to lawmakers and the media.” (“Suozzi’s Pay Hike Omission Fuels Backlash,” [News 12 Long Island](#), 10/17/07)

**In 1995, Suozzi’s Republican Opponent, Vincent Taranto, Said Suozzi “Should Not Be Trying To Raise His Salary From \$20,000 To \$75,000 A Year.” Suozzi Countered That The Salary Was Recommended By An Independent Panel.** “When he first took office as Glen Cove mayor, Democrat Tom Suozzi faced a whopping budget deficit, a hole in the ground and huge projected cost overruns where a new police/courts building was to be built, and a simmering controversy over what to do about undocumented workers. ... His opponent is Republican Vincent Taranto, a city councilman from 1980 until 1986, who says that Suozzi raised taxes too much (although he agrees the deficit had to be closed), has not solved the undocumented worker problem and should not be trying to raise his salary from \$20,000 to \$75,000 a year. Suozzi counters that, with the advent of the Nassau County legislature, the mayor will lose the \$39,500 he earned as a member of the board of supervisors. He notes that the salary was recommended by an independent panel.” (“Newsday ENDORSES / For Supervisor. . . / The Four Top Choices Are Best Suited To Govern As Nassau Enters A New Political Era,” *Newsday*, 11/3/95)