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Advisory Panels: Confidentiality Clause (1975): Report 01

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CHAIRMAN

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND PUBLIC WELFARE

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The Committee by inclusion of this new provision recognizes the necessity of broadening the range and enlarging the number of sources of financial support for cultural institutions of quality. In addition, it is important to increase the levels of support, thus creating a more effective private-public sector partnership in cultural activities.

Challenge grants provide an effective means for achieving these goals through more wide-spread sharing of responsibility for the financial support of cultural activities in communities throughout the country.

Separate paragraph

The Committee believes that one of the most important features of the challenge grant program is the encouragement of recipients to improve and integrate their program, audience, and financial development planning. This is essential if they are soundly to build new and continuing sources of support and a more stable pattern of future operations and growth.

The Endowments' expenditures in their first decade have been a significant catalyst to generating new and increased funding as well as maintaining ongoing support from other public and private sources. Indeed, the ability of cultural organizations to generate matching funds for Endowment grants has been a welcome sign of those organizations' effectiveness and the public's growing appreciation of the importance of the arts, ~~and humanities~~. Rather than dominating, Federal funds have been a way to help insure the pluralism of support essential to the vitality of cultural pursuits. This pluralism grows ever more important as the number of cultural institutions increases and participation in this activities extends more widely among our citizens.

The Committee commends the Arts Endowment for the initiatives it has taken to make the federal investment serve its maximum purpose in stimulating non-federal support, and believes that the new challenge program will provide the Endowment with a much needed opportunity to ~~address~~ ^{address} not only on-going needs but to develop new sources of future funding for the arts. In this regard the Committee also commends the Endowment for plans it is developing to encourage added corporate support.