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Surplus Federal Property Act (1976): Correspondence 04

Ann Farris Darling

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OPERA america, inc.

"The Unified Voice of Professional Opera"

May 19th, 1976

Senator Claiborne Pell,
Chairman, Committee on Education,
Dirksen Office Building,
Washington, D.C. 20510

Attention: Mr. Livingston Biddle

Dear Senator Pell:

We have been most encouraged to read in the proposed Senate Bill S 3440 (to amend and extend the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965), the Section 106 stating the administrative provision with respect to surplus property.

It may interest you to know that access to this surplus for opera companies as grantees of the National Endowment for the Arts has great cost saving potential. In the past some technical directors of opera companies have been aware of this material but have been unable to gain access due to the government regulations. As you know, opera companies are experiencing great financial strain - which has the effect of curtailing new production activity. However, if these opera companies have the opportunity to make use of surplus material it could reduce the raw material cost of new productions.

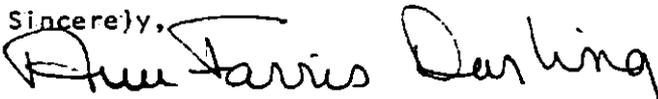
Materials of particular interest are:

- 
- Shop equipment - eg tools such as band saws, cutting tools
 - Electrical equipment - eg cables and connectors
 - Miscellaneous materials - eg canvas, or materials that may be required to realize a set designers concept
 - Office supplies and materials- eg typewriters, file cabinets, paper etc.

We anticipate that our opera companies would make excellent use of surplus material and truly hope that the Congress of the United States will authorize this administrative provision. We know it could be of assistance in holding down costs of opera companies in our ever spiraling economy.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Ann Farris Darling, Executive Director

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