

6-18-1996

Appropriations (1996): Correspondence 02

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 18, 1996

Senator Slade Gorton
Chairman
Subcommittee on Interior Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Slade:

As the appropriations process for fiscal year 1997 begins in the Senate, we wanted to take a moment to share with you our strong commitment to supporting continued funding for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Institute for Museum Services (IMS). As you know, this issue of continued federal funding for the arts and humanities is one of great importance to us -- one which was successfully resolved last year, in large part due to your leadership in working out the differences between the House and the Senate.

As you recall, last July, the Labor and Human Resource Committee passed a bill to reauthorize the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities and the Institute for Museum and Library Services -- by a vote of 12-4. This strong show of bi-partisan support, we believe, demonstrates a continued sentiment on the part of the Senate to fund these agencies. Therefore, we strongly support your efforts to include appropriations for the NEA, NEH and IMS for the upcoming fiscal year and hope that we might see an increase over last fiscal year's appropriations for these agencies -- enabling each one to continue the important job of making the arts and humanities more accessible to people all across our nation.

We recognize that you will face many difficult decisions in the weeks ahead, and ask only that you continue to keep in mind the positive and valuable effect that arts and humanities projects have in all of our respective States. The Senate's commitment to federal support will ensure that arts and humanities programs, activities and exhibitions will continue to be available in local communities -- engaging and educating individuals of all ages -- in addition to making an enormous contribution to expanding and enriching our nation's cultural heritage and artistic traditions.

Chairman Slade Gorton

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We are grateful for your support of the reauthorization of the National Endowments as well as your leadership in managing the Interior Appropriations bill last year, and look forward to working with you again this year.

Sincerely,

Jim Jeffords

Clifton F. ...

John Chafee

John Glenn

Bill ...

Lee K. ...
Carl Albert Byer

Don Rostenkowski

J. ...

Robert A. Taft

John Breaux

Frank R. Lautenberg

Jim ...

Paul D. Wellstone

Kent ...

Carl ...

... ..

Carl Levin

John T. White

Studdell Ford

Chuck Ross

Olympia Snowe

Al D'Amato

Patrick Leahy

Chris Dodd

Ron Wyden

Samuel Alaka

Wyomeni

Tom Daschle