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Way Cleared For Okay of Arts Fundings

By Philip M. Karo

WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 2, '76 (AP) — A bill to create a national arts endowment was yesterday accepted by the conference committee of four senators and four representatives in the Senate and House of Representatives. The bill was passed by a vote of 10-8, with 1 abstention.

Under the terms of the bill, the arts endowment would be established as a private, nonprofit corporation and would have the authority to receive gifts, grants, and other contributions. The endowment would be responsible for the promotion and support of the arts in the United States, including the encouragement of artistic and cultural activities, the preservation and dissemination of artistic works, and the provision of educational and artistic opportunities.


The conference committee was instructed to make a report to the Senate and House on the status of the arts endowment and to provide recommendations for its establishment.

The legislation will be debated in the Senate and House before final passage. The bill is expected to be signed into law by President Ford in the near future.

ENDOWMENT

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Trends national Endowment for the Arts, the Senate cleared the legislation yesterday, ending a three-year battle to establish the arts endowment.

"The arts are a vital part of our society," said Pell. "We need a strong national arts endowment to ensure that the arts will be available for all Americans."