

2016

Arts, Humanities, and Museums Amendments: House Report (1993): Correspondence 01

John H. Hammer

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The NHA National Humanities Alliance

21 June 1993

COPY

The Honorable Pat Williams
Chair, Labor-Management Relations Subcommittee
Committee on Education and Labor
112 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Pat:

I write in connection with the reauthorization of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965. First, this is to formally confirm the support of the National Humanities Alliance (a list of members attached) for the position taken by the administration and yourself for a two-year, no substantive change reauthorization. While we have issues of concern about the National Endowment for the Humanities, we vigorously agree that these are matters to be taken up after the leadership positions in the endowments are in place and have had time to develop policy objectives and so forth.

We have one technical change to propose for the present reauthorization cycle -- restoration of a section of the legislation delineating procedures for employing peer review panels at NEH which was inadvertently deleted during the 1990 reauthorization process. I attach page 22 of the 1986 compilation of the law with the sentences under discussion indicated. Apparently, in the process of inserting into Section 10 more detailed and focused language on the peer process for the National Endowment for the Arts, the language at issue, which applied to both endowments and which was the only language describing use of peer panels at NEH, was dropped. Although I monitored the process closely, I can recall no discussion of discarding this part of the legislation -- and the record shows no intent on the part of members of Congress to lessen NEH's responsibilities in this area. Therefore my colleagues and I have concluded that it was an inadvertent deletion and that it would be only a technical change to reinsert the language into the legislation.

Congratulations on the speed with which you and your colleagues have taken up the reauthorization once the administration formally announced its very practical wishes on the matter.

Sincerely,



John H. Hammer
Director

Please Note New Address/Phone/FAX - Effective 27 February 1993:

Copy: Hon Marge Roukema

National Humanities Alliance Tel: 202/296-4994
21 Dupont Circle, NW - Suite 804 FAX: 202/872-0884
Washington, DC 20036

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persons in the Government service employed without compensation;

(6) to make advance, progress, and other payments without regard to the provisions of section 3648 of the Revised Statutes (31 U.S.C. 529);

(7) to rent office space in the District of Columbia; and

(8) to make other necessary expenditures.

In any case in which any money or other property is donated, bequeathed, or devised to the Foundation (A) without designation of the Endowment for the benefit of which such property is intended, and (B) without condition or restriction other than it be used for the purposes of the Foundation, such property shall be deemed to have been donated, bequeathed, or devised in equal shares to each Endowment and each Chairperson of an Endowment shall have authority to receive such property. In any case in which any money or other property is donated, bequeathed, or devised to the Foundation with a condition or restriction, such property shall be deemed to have been donated, bequeathed, or devised to that Endowment whose function it is to carry out the purpose or purposes described or referred to by the terms of such condition or restriction, and each Chairperson of an Endowment shall have authority to receive such property. For the purposes of the preceding sentence, if one or more of the purposes of such a condition or restriction is covered by the functions of both Endowments, or if some of the purposes of such a condition or restriction are covered by the functions of one Endowment and other of the purposes of such a condition or restriction are covered by the functions of the other Endowment, the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities shall determine an equitable manner for distribution between each of the Endowments of the property so donated, bequeathed, or devised. For the purpose of the income tax, gift tax, and estate tax laws of the United States, any money or other property donated, bequeathed, or devised to the Foundation or one of its Endowments and received by the Chairperson of an Endowment pursuant to authority derived under this subsection shall be deemed to have been donated, bequeathed, or devised to or for the use of the United States. In selecting panels of experts under clause (4) to review and make recommendations with respect to the approval of applications for financial assistance under this Act, each Chairperson shall appoint individuals who have exhibited expertise and leadership in the field under review, who broadly represent diverse characteristics in terms of aesthetic or humanistic perspective, and geographical factors, and who broadly represent cultural diversity. Each Chairperson shall assure that the membership of panels changes substantially from year to year, and that no more than 20 per centum of the annual appointments shall be for service beyond the limit of three consecutive years on a subpanel. In making appointments, each Chairperson shall give due regard to the need for experienced as well as new members on each panel. Panels of experts appointed to review or make recommendations with respect to the approval of applications or projects for funding by the National Endowment for the Arts shall, when reviewing such applications and projects, recommend for funding only applications and projects that in the context in which they are presented, in the experts' view, foster excellence, are reflective of exceptional talent, and have significant lit-

From: Compilation of the NFAHA 1965 as amended through 12/31/86

The **NHA** National Humanities Alliance

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 South Central Modern Language Association
 Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities
 University of California, Berkeley
 University of California Humanities Research
 Institute, University of California, Irvine
 Virginia Center for the Humanities

New Address/Telephone/FAX - Effective 2/27/93

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 Washington, DC 20036

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 FAX:
 202/472-0884

February 1993