Duffey, Joseph: Humanities Chairman Nomination Hearing (September 9, 1977): Memorandum 02

T. H.

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TO: SENATOR  
FROM: TH  
RE: BERMAN  

Mr. Cuneo dropped by to talk about Berman and to deliver the attached, which I am not supposed to look at. He would very much like you to call him this afternoon, since he is going to be lobbying in your behalf in the House tomorrow.

He said he met with Mr. Williams this afternoon and the hearing will be Aug. 25. Though Cuneo was quite cryptic, I think he was telling me that Williams is on our side but we must provide the action.

First, he says, he thinks you should make a speech clearly outlining your position. As the father of the two endowments, you should, in the speech, call the formation of them a social experiment and after 10 years one has been a rousing success, attracting business support and involving women, minorities, ethnics, etc. while the other has become a fascist dictatorship.

After that speech is public (and he wants to be able to hand it to Jess Abell and Liz Carpenter), we should work to attract groups which will seek to be heard before the committee. He suggests ethnic groups, women's groups, state historical societies, governors, etc.

He also suggested that someone might propose that this matter is so momentous that it should be studied by a special committee composed of prominent humanists (all of whom would be friends of his).