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Questions for State Arts Councils

1. As you know, I am proposing in S. 1386 that State humanities committees be organized like State arts councils, with public membership and accountability. Do you believe that this structure, which has been part of State arts councils since the beginning, has impeded your effectiveness?

2. What do you think of the Administration's new proposal that the Chairman's discretionary share be increased to 50% of the amount available for State arts agencies, depending on their applications' quality, the level of State funding, and the State's population? Wouldn't this cause States with developing arts sophistication to lose money?

3. I understand that the Administration bill proposes to allow State councils to match their Federal funds with funds from State appropriations or those raised from grantees. What has been the past history of State arts councils' raising money from grantees? Would you like to comment on the changes proposed by the Administration bill?

4. Do the State Arts Councils have a ceiling on administrative spending? If not, do you feel there should be a ceiling so that more money could be spent on effective programming?

5. I understand that each State Arts Council must submit a plan in order to be considered for its State block grant. Is there a standard application procedure with which the states must comply? As you know, one of my particular concerns is unnecessary paperwork requirements, and I would like to know if you believe that the Arts Endowment requires too much paperwork from the states? If so, do you consider any of the

requirements unnecessary?

6. In your respective states, do you believe that the State Council adequately reflects the needs and interests of local, independent artists?

7. As you are aware, the Arts Endowment is conducting a study on community arts agencies. If the recommendation is made that the Endowment should fund local agencies, how receptive would states be to such a recommendation?