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State Humanities Committees (1979-1982): Memorandum 01

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M E M O R A N D U M

March 30, 1979

TO: Senator
FROM: ADC
SUBJECT: Briefing on Endowment State Programs

At the Arts Endowment is required by law to provide 20% of its Program Funds to state arts agencies and regional groups. The largest portion of these funds (about 75%) is divided evenly between the 55 states and jurisdictions. The remaining 25% is divided among state arts agencies and regional groups on a competitive basis.

To receive the Basic State Operating Grant, each state arts agency must submit an application to the Arts Endowment outlining its programs and needs in the state. Livy approves each application after it is reviewed by the Federal/State Advisory Panel. As you have heard, recent state agency applications from New Jersey and D.C. were turned down by the Endowment.

These Basic State Operating Grants are awarded on at least a one to one matching basis. Some states put up much more than they are required to. (The attached article from The Star details how exceeds State funding of the arts now exceeds federal funding.)

The Basic State Operating Grants for the last few years have been:

FY 77	\$205,000	
78	215,000	(in 78 the State of R.I. put up \$306,656)
79	275,000	
80	275,000	(no change is proposed)

The total budget for the Endowment's Federal/State Program has also had steady increases:

FY 77	\$16,340,000	
78	18,826,000	
79	22,721,000	
80	23,000,000	request (a \$279,000 increase over 79)

The Humanities Endowment makes grants to citizens' committees in each state.

The Division of State Programs at NEH divides 75% of their allotment evenly among the states. The remaining 25% is distributed based on a complex population formula and "as conditioned by merit." The state committees must match the NEH grant to each state one for one, but the match can be in funds or in services.

Rhode Island was granted	\$275,000 in FY 78
	305,000 in Fy 79

When I get all the figures from NEH I will compare them with the arts figures and get you a fuller memo. I am also getting the figures on private gifts to each type of council.