

11-6-1995

Appropriations (1996): Memorandum 04

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MEMORANDUM

November 6, 1995

To: Senator
From: PDW
Re: Meeting on Endowments Reauthorization

Senators Kennedy, Jeffords and Kassebaum will be meeting in S-124 on Tuesday, November 7 at 2:30 p.m. to discuss how to move the bill (S.856) to reauthorize the Endowments. As you have called the meeting, it would be appropriate for you to make the opening remarks. What follows is an outline of the basic points to cover and an alert on two other items which may be introduced:

OUTLINE:

1. Express your appreciation for them coming to the meeting.
2. State your continued deep commitment to the reauthorization of NEA and NEH and your hope that legislation will move this year. (NOTE: the real purpose of the meeting is to reach some consensus today to move the bill ahead, to get it to the floor.)
3. Note that it is expected that the House bill addressing reauthorization will be brought to the floor by the end of this week, adding pressure to the Senate to do likewise. *Whipped it*
3. Say that you would be glad to go with Senator Kennedy to meet with Senator Daschle to urge him to give this matter priority consideration.
4. Ask if it is possible for the other side to do the same thing with Senator Dole.

ALERT:

1. Senator Kennedy is likely to bring up the business about the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Act that you discussed with Jane Alexander -- the fact that the Workforce Development Act contains language about the Indemnity program giving administrative authority to the IMS Director versus NEA Chairman. Senator Kassebaum may be unaware of Jane's unhappiness. It would be best for you to sit back and let the conversation take place between Senators Kassebaum and Jeffords, or Senators Kennedy and Jeffords. Jeffords met with Alexander and said that he will consider talking with Senator Ashcroft about putting the Indemnity Program back at the National Council for the Arts and Humanities, administered by the NEA, with some further extension of domestic indemnity.

2. You should know that we have put a hold on S. 673, the Youth Development Block Grant that reported out of committee earlier this year with all the Democrats opposed. This was done as a protection in case that bill moves to the floor (which is doubtful). If it does, we will attach the reauthorization. We doubt that Senator Kassebaum is aware of this move, but if she is, you should be prepared to say that we did it just as a backstop.