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Interior Appropriations Bill: Pell Statements  
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August 2016

## Interior Appropriations Bill: Pell Statements (1990): Speech 12

Claiborne Pell

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## STATEMENT OF SENATOR CLAIBORNE PELL

Mr. President, I rise in support of the Cultural Partnerships for At-Risk Children and Youth Act. This bill would provide a small but meaningful educational grant program to benefit at-risk children around our nation. Grants would be awarded to partnerships between cultural organizations such as museums, arts agencies or institutions of higher education and Chapter 1 schools for purposes of educating young people in cultural activities. These grants will leverage local cultural resources for the benefit of at-risk children and youth.

Research by the J. Paul Getty Foundation has shown that when students receive cultural education, they transfer their acquired problem-solving skill and self discipline to other subjects such as Math, English and History. A recent study by the University of Chicago showed that students who received significant arts education scored higher on the Scholastic Aptitude Test than those who received little such education.

The Committee which will analyze grant requests and provide the awards is structured in order to make maximum use of the federal dollar. The Department of Education has the greatest experience in distributing grants to schools while the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Institute of Museum Services will contribute their expertise in the disciplines of the humanities and the arts and museum programs so that they can identify the highest quality projects to target at-risk youth and avoid duplication of programs and efforts. Mr. President, this legislation is a modest but much needed boost to at-risk children around our country and I urge my colleagues to support it.