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Museum Services Act (1973): Correspondence 03

Gregg F. Stock

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Encl. JUL 11 1973

Ans'd.....

KANSAS CITY MUSEUM
OF HISTORY AND SCIENCE
3218 GLADSTONE BOULEVARD
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64123

GREGG F. STOCK
DIRECTOR

July 9, 1973

Senator Claiborne Pell, Chairman
Special Subcommittee on Arts
and Humanities
Room 4230, U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pell:

In a conversation today with Senator Stuart Symington's office, who contacted Mr. Livingston Biddle today on our behalf, all regarding your proposed Museum Services Act S. 796, we were advised to let you know of our interest in the Act and that we are preparing a statement for inclusion as evidence at your hearings July 18th and 19th.

We believe our statement can contribute materially to your analysis of the potential of this proposed Act. No more dramatic nor better documented example could exist than ours of a great potential for museum service frustrated by lack of facilities.

Based on five years of study by outside private consultants and by our own Board of Governors and staff, we have embarked on the first phase of an improvement/expansion program. Here are a few comparative details of our situation: Kansas City has 40,000 square feet of general museum space (excluding art museums) serving 150,000 people annually. Milwaukee and Denver, cities of comparable size to Kansas City, have more than eight times as much general museum space as our facility and each serves approximately eight times as many people.

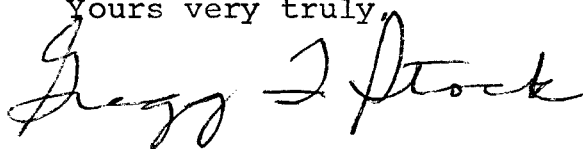
Senator Claiborne Pell, 7/9/73, (Cont.), Page II.

The Lawrence Leiter Company has determined in an extensive study that we would serve over 2,000,000 people annually in a complete and proper facility and that a majority of these people would come from outside our metropolitan area. We have a solid base financially for what we are doing now. We have valuable collections. Public funding has failed on earlier attempts to expand the Museum. We are now proceeding on a 3 phase plan hoping to gain private funding for expansion.

Our full statement will follow shortly. We would be pleased and privileged to testify at your proceedings if possible.

Thank you for your consideration of these most important matters.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gregg I. Stock". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Gregg I. Stock".

cc: Senator Stuart Symington
Senator Thomas Eagleton
Representative Richard Bolling
American Association of Museums