Arts, Humanities, and Cultural Affairs Act (1976): Report 03

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 13, 1976

Mr. ___ introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare

A BILL

To amend and extend the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, to provide for the improvement of museum services and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

That this Act may be cited as the “Arts, Humanities, and Cultural Affairs Act of 1976”.

TITLE I—ARTS AND HUMANITIES

GRANTS TO THE AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE

Sec. 101. (a) Section 5 of the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:
The Chairman is authorized to make grants to
the American Film Institute, a nonprofit corporation in-
corporated under the laws of the District of Columbia, for
the purposes described in subsection (c)."

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall be
effective with respect to fiscal year 1977 and succeeding
fiscal years.

STATE HUMANITIES COUNCILS

Sec. 102. (a) (1) Section 7 of the National Founda-
tion on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 is amended
by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(f) (1) The Chairman, with the advice of the National
Council on the Humanities, is authorized to establish and
carry out a program of grants-in-aid to assist the several
States in supporting not more than 50 per centum of the
cost of existing activities which meet the standards enu-
merated in subsection (c), and in developing programs in
the humanities in such a manner as will furnish adequate
programs in the humanities in each of the several States.

"(2) In order to receive assistance under this subsec-
tion in any fiscal year, a State shall submit an application
for such grants at such time as shall be specified by the
Chairman and accompany such applications with a plan
which the Chairman finds—

"(A) designates or provides for the establishment
of a State agency (hereafter in this section referred to as the State agency) as the sole agency for the administra-
tion of the State plan;

“(B) provides that funds paid to the State under this subsection will be expended solely on programs approved by the State agency which carry out one or more of the objectives of subsection (c); and

“(C) provides that the State agency will make such reports, in such form, and containing such information, as the Chairman may, from time to time, require.

“(3) Of the sums available to carry out this subsection for any fiscal year, each State which has a plan approved by the Chairman shall be allotted at least $100,000. If the sums appropriated are insufficient to make the allotments under the preceding sentence in full, such sums shall be allotted among such States in equal amounts. In any case where the sums available to carry out this subsection for any fiscal year are in excess of the amount required to make the allotments under the first sentence of this paragraph—

“(A) the amount of such excess which is no greater than 25 per centum of the sums available to carry out this subsection for any fiscal year shall be available to the Chairman for making grants under this subsection to States and regional groups; and

“(B) the amount of such excess, if any, which re-
mains after reserving in full for the Chairman the amount required under clause (A) shall be allotted among the States which have plans approved by the Chairman in equal amounts, but in no event shall any State be allotted less than $100,000.

"(4) (A) That part of any allotment made under paragraph (3) for any fiscal year—

"(i) which exceeds $62,500, but

"(ii) which does not exceed 20 per centum of such allotment,

shall be available, at the discretion of the Chairman, to pay up to 100 per centum of the cost of programs under this subsection if such programs would otherwise be unavailable to the residents of that State.

"(B) Any amount allotted to a State under the first sentence of paragraph (3) for any fiscal year which is not obligated by the State prior to sixty days prior to the end of the fiscal year for which such sums are appropriated shall be available to the Chairman for making grants to regional groups.

"(C) Funds made available under this subsection shall not be used to supplant non-Federal funds.

"(D) For the purposes of paragraph (3) and this paragraph, the term "regional group" means any multi-State group, whether or not representative of contiguous States.
"(5) All amounts allotted or made available under paragraph (3) for a fiscal year which are not granted to a State during such year shall be available to the National Endowment for the Humanities for the purpose of carrying out section 5 (c).

"(6) Whenever the Chairman, after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing, finds that—

"(A) a group is not complying substantially with the provisions of this section;

"(B) a State agency is not complying substantially with terms and conditions of its State plan approved under this section; or

"(C) any funds granted to a group or State agency under this section have been diverted from the purposes for which they are allotted or paid,

the Chairman shall immediately notify the Secretary of the Treasury and the group or State agency with respect to which such finding was made that no further grants will be made under this section to such group or agency until there is no longer a default or failure to comply or the diversion has been corrected, or, if the compliance or correction is impossible, until such group or agency repays or arranges the repayment of the Federal funds which have been improperly diverted or expended."

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall be
effective with respect to fiscal year 1977 and succeeding fiscal years.

AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 103. (a) (1) (A) Section 11(a) (1) (A) of the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 11. (a) (1) (A) For the purpose of carrying out section 5, there are authorized to be appropriated $113,500,000 each for the fiscal year 1978 and 1979; and there are so authorized such sums as may be necessary for the fiscal years 1980 and 1981. Of the sums so appropriated for any fiscal year—

"(i) not less than 20 per centum shall be for carrying out section 5(g); and

"(ii) 4 per centum shall be for carrying out section 5(l)."

(B) Section 11(a) (1) (B) of such Act is amended by striking out all that follows "Humanities" and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "$113,500,000 each for fiscal years 1978 and 1979; and there are so authorized such sums as may be necessary for the fiscal years 1980 and 1981. Of the sums so appropriated for any fiscal year, not less than 10 per centum shall be for carrying out section 7(f).".

(2) Section 11(a) (2) of such Act is amended (A) by
striking out “July 1, 1976” and inserting in lieu thereof “October 1, 1981” and (B) by striking out all that follows “not exceed” and inserting in lieu thereof “$25,000,000”.

(b) The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be effective on and after the last day of fiscal year 1977.

TITLE II—MUSEUM SERVICES

SHORT TITLE

Sec. 201. This title may be cited as the “Museum Services Act”.

PURPOSE

Sec. 202. It is the purpose of this title to encourage and assist museums in their educational role, in conjunction with formal systems of elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education and with programs of nonformal education for all age groups; to assist museums in modernizing their methods and facilities so that they may better be able to conserve our cultural, historic, and scientific heritage; and to ease the financial burden borne by museums as a result of their increasing use by the public.

INSTITUTE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF MUSEUM SERVICES

Sec. 203. There is hereby established, within the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, an Institute for the Improvement of Museum Services (hereinafter referred to as the “Institute”). The Institute shall consist of a National
Museum Services Board (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") and a Director of the Institute (hereinafter referred to as the "Director").

NATIONAL MUSEUM SERVICES BOARD.

Sec. 204. (a) The Board shall consist of fifteen members appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and the following ex officio members:

1. the Director;
2. the Librarian of Congress;
3. the Archivist of the United States;
4. the Commissioner of Education;
5. the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution;
6. the Director of the National Gallery of Art;
7. the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts; and
8. the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The appointed members of the Board shall be broadly representative of the curatorial, education, and cultural resources of the United States and of the general public.

(b) The term of office of appointed members of the Board shall be five years, except that—

1. any such member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve only such portion of a term as shall not have been expired at the time of such appointment; and
(2) in the case of initial members, three shall serve for terms of four years, three shall serve terms of three years, three shall serve terms of two years, and three shall serve terms of one year.

Any appointed member who has been a member of the Board for more than seven consecutive years shall thereafter be ineligible for reappointment to the Board during the three-year period following the expiration of the last such consecutive year.

(c) The Chairman of the Board shall be designated by the President from among the appointed members of the Board. Eight appointed members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

(d) The Board shall meet at the call of the Chairman, except that—

(1) it shall meet not less than four times each year;

(2) in cases where the Director determines that a meeting of the Board is necessary, it shall meet whenever one-third of the total number of members request a meeting in writing, in which event one-half of the total number of members shall constitute a quorum; and

(3) whenever one-third of the appointed members request a meeting in writing, it shall meet, in which event one-third of the appointed members shall constitute a quorum.
Ex officio members of the Board shall not have a vote on
the Board.

(e) Members of the Board who are not in the regular
full-time employ of the United States shall receive, while en-
gaged in the business of the Board, compensation for service
at a rate to be fixed by the President, except that such rate
shall not exceed the rate specified at the time of such service
for grade GS-18 in section 5332 of title 5, United States
Code, including traveltime, and, while so serving away from
their homes or regular places of business, they may be
allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of sub-
sistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United
States Code, for persons employed in Government service.

(f) The Board shall have the responsibility for the gen-
eral policies with respect to the powers, duties, and authori-
ties vested in the Institute under this title. The Director
shall make available to the Board such information and
assistance as may be necessary to enable the Board to carry
out its functions.

DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE

Sec. 205. (a) The Director of the Institute shall be
appointed by the President, by and with the advice and con-
sent of the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the
President. The Director shall be compensated at the rate pro-
vided for level V, United States Code, and shall perform
such duties and exercise such powers as the Board may prescribe.

(b) There shall be a Deputy Director of the Institute who shall be appointed by the President and shall serve at the pleasure of the President. The Deputy Director shall be compensated at the rate provided for grade 18 of the General Schedule set forth in section 5332 of title 5, United States Code. The Deputy Director shall exercise such powers as the Director may prescribe, and the Deputy Director shall serve as Director during the absence or disability of the Director, or in the event of a vacancy in the Office of Director. The position created by this paragraph shall be in addition to the number of positions placed in grade 18 of the General Schedule under section 5108 of title 5, United States Code.

ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTE

Sec. 206. (a) The Director, subject to the management of the Board, is authorized to make grants to museums to increase and improve museum services, through such activities as—

(1) projects to enable museums to construct or install displays, interpretations, and exhibitions in order to improve their services to the public;

(2) assisting them in developing and maintaining
professionally-trained or otherwise experienced staff to meet their needs;

(3) assisting them to meet their administrative costs in preserving and maintaining their collections, exhibiting them to the public, and providing educational programs to the public through the use of their collections;

(4) assisting museums in cooperation with each other in the development of traveling exhibitions, meeting transportation costs, and identifying and locating collections available for loan;

(5) assisting them in conservation of artifacts and art objects; and

(6) developing and carrying out specialized programs for specific segments of the public such as programs for urban neighborhoods, rural areas, Indian reservations, penal and other State institutions.

(b) Grants under this section may not exceed 75 percent of the cost of the program for which the grant is made.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Sec. 207. The Institute shall have authority to accept in the name of the United States, grants, gifts, or bequests of money for immediate disbursement in furtherance of the functions of the Institute. Such grants, gifts, or bequests, after
acceptance by the Institute, shall be paid by the donor or his representative to the Treasurer of the United States whose receipt shall be their acquittance. The Treasurer of the United States shall enter them in a special account to the credit of the Institute for the purposes in each case specified.

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 208. (a) For the purpose of making grants under section 206(a), there are hereby authorized to be appropriated $25,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, and $30,000,000 for each of the succeeding fiscal years ending prior to October 1, 1979.

(b) For the purpose of enabling the Institute to carry out its functions under this title, during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending October 1, 1978, there is authorized to be appropriated an amount equal to the amount contributed during such period to the Institute under section 207.

DEFINITION

SEC. 209. For purposes of this title, the term "museum" means a public or private nonprofit agency or institution organized on a permanent basis for essentially educational or esthetic purposes, which, utilizing a professional staff, owns and utilizes tangible objects, cares for them, and exhibits them to the public on a regular basis.