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Legislative History of the Reauthorization of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) (1990): Speech 05

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Statement by Senator Pell on the Committee Substitute Amendment
to the National Foundation on the Arts & Humanities Act of 1965

Mr. Chairman: The amendment we address today provides for an extension of the authorization statute which governs the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum Services.

This proposal provides for a two year extension of existing law and incorporates a House-passed amendment that would freeze a state's allotment of NEA funds if the state has decreased its own funding for the arts from a 3 year average base level.

I strongly support the adoption of this committee substitute so as to speed the reauthorization of these three important agencies. I want to assure my colleagues that a full scale review of these programs will occur over the next two years as we lead up to the next reauthorization in 1995.

SUMMARY OF THE NEA, NEH, AND IMS REAUTHORIZATION:

Committee substitute amendment:

1. authorizes appropriations for FY94 and FY95

	NEA	NEH	IMS
FY94	\$174.59 mil	177.49 mil	\$28.7 mil
FY95	such sums		

The figures for FY94 are consistent with the President's requested figures.

2. incorporates the House-passed Gunderson/Slaughter amendment which freezes a state's allotment of NEA funds at the preceeding year's level IF the state's current year funding for the arts is less than the average annual amount the state spent on the arts during the three prior years.

requires the NEA Chair to conduct an investigation of state compliance with the "no substitution" requirement contained in the current law and to report the findings to the Congress prior to the next reauthorization. This provision of current law prohibits the states from substituting federal funds for state funding of the arts.