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Keeney Asks \$100-Million For Humanities

Journal-Bulletin Washington Bureau
Washington — Dr. Barnaby

C. Keeney, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, told a Senate subcommittee yesterday federal government funds for the humanities should be increased from the 3.5 million dollars provided this year to nearly 100 million dollars within three years.

Testifying before a subcommittee headed by Sen. Claiborne Pell, Dr. Keeney said federal government funds to support studies and education in the humanities should be stepped up to 41 million dollars for the 1969 fiscal year, 70 million for 1970 and 98.4 million for 1971.

The rapid expansion of the humanities program projected by Dr. Keeney seemed to startle even Senator Pell, the principal Senate sponsor of the act that created the arts and humanities foundations in 1965 and one of the strongest supporters of the program.

Senator Pell expressed doubts Congress would authorize such rapid growth in the program while faced with a large budget deficit and a proposed tax in-

crease. He asked Dr. Keeney to estimate what funds would be required to support a "minimal program" and suggested a 50 per cent increase over the endowment's current authorization.

Dr. Keeney said a 50 per cent increase would support only a "very minimal program." He declined to offer estimates lower than his original projections. Instead, he suggested Congress should authorize the funds that could be used effectively for the program and leave it to the Bureau of the Budget and the congressional appropriations committees to make cut-backs.

The act that established the humanities and arts foundations expires next year. The Senate subcommittee is considering a bill submitted by the Johnson administration that would extend the programs for two or three years with a more modest increase in authorized funds than projections offered by Dr. Keeney.