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October 24, 1983

Mr. Albert T. Klyberg
Director
The Rhode Island Historical Society
110 Benevolent Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02906

Dear Mr.:

Thank you very much for your recent letter with your very good and thoughtful points on which to question Susan Phillips.

Regrettably, her confirmation hearing was hastily arranged by the Administration on October 5th so I did not have an opportunity to cover all your points.

However, I did question her on the issue of grouping all museums with budgets over $500,000 for the purposes of review. She assured me that under her administration a new procedure would be instituted with additional budget categories. This hopefully will improve the situation in regard to the Historical Society's applications.

The proposal to change the name of the Institute was rejected by the House/Senate conference on Interior appropriations. This action will now permit us to study the proposal and its ramifications more carefully during the upcoming re-authorization of the Museum Services Act.

Your other points are extremely well taken and I will make a point of discussing them with Ms. Phillips at a future meeting.

As soon as a copy of the hearing testimony is available I will send it on to you.

With warm regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell