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"National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities (1965-1967): News Article 14" (1965). *National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities (1965-1967)*. Paper 37.
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Sen. Pell Urges Support of Arts As an Investment

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Sen. Claiborne Pell asked Rhode Island's business and professional leaders yesterday to increase their support of the arts as an investment in the state's economy.

He told a meeting of about 35 business and industrial men that he has become convinced that the richer the artistic and educational climate, the more attractive an area is to new business.

The senator's remarks were delivered by telephone from his Newport home to a luncheon meeting at the Sheraton-Biltmore Hotel called to discuss the importance of Trinity Square Playhouse to the state's business and professional community. Senator Pell is a trustee of the theater.

"Many businessmen feel that the only endeavors in which they are able to invest are those which promise of giving a return," the senator said. "I submit that support for the performing arts will do precisely this."

In Rhode Island, he said, businessmen considering locating facilities here ask not only about taxes and the labor situation here but also about the cultural and educational life in the state.