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August 19, 1982

Ms. Eleanor McMahon  
Commissioner  
Office of Higher Education  
State of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations  
199 Promenade Street  
Providence, R.I. 02908

Dear Eleanor:

Thank you very much for your recent letter in regard to future funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities and for higher education.

For the near future we can be reasonably certain that the Humanities Endowment will not be abolished as many had once feared. The Presidential Task Force on the Arts and Humanities which was convened last year to examine possible alternatives to the Endowments, made a strong recommendation to continue the present structures although at reduced funding levels.

As far as funding for Fiscal Year 1983, I am urging that the Endowment receive the same amount, $130 million, as was received in 1982.

I would also like you to know how much I appreciated your very kind words regarding my efforts on behalf of higher education. My commitment remains very strong indeed, and I assure you that I shall continue my efforts to provide the maximum possible funding for these most important programs.

Warm regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

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