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Museum Services Board (1991): Correspondence 12

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

All replies to:
One Red Devil Lane
Westwood, MA 02090
February 14, 1979

FEB 21 1979

The Honorable Claiborne Pell
U.S. Senate
325 Old Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Claiborne:

Thank you so much for yours of February 5th which came while I was abroad. I had a Council meeting over the weekend on my way home and saw Sandy. He mentioned Al Klyberg, and I explained that I thought that we could probably do that next year. With only three vacancies occurring this year and those people giving excellent service, it was advisable to roll them over. In the case of Mrs. Mondale's replacement, Joe Califano said that he wanted a woman to replace a woman, and he did not want to diminish the representation of the various groups required by the law as well as practicality and so we went looking for a woman being in complete sympathy with him. However, those people who will have been on two years next December will in some cases not necessarily have to be rolled over and we should have a vacancy then or the following year for Klyberg. Without special circumstances I think that he would be the first we'd put on and I have had this in mind since you mentioned it at the time the Board was created. This is no mere agreement on the matter for sake of politics, but I believe he's a first-class person and can, in fact, improve the level of representation over one or two we now have.

In regard to Mrs. Pulitzer, I judge that Joe Pulitzer is absolutely opposed to turning his personal financial data over to anybody although she is quite, quite willing to pull out her own income and her own individual investments and so on. It does seem to me that for a minor job of this sort which alone makes practically no decisions, is protected by conflict of interest statutes and is a group effort, that the spouse's investments have very little bearing. After all, it's hardly the Secretary of the Treasury or one of the independent agencies chairmanship! I hope that some degree of discretion as between the weight of the job and the situation which seems to exist is possible. The good old American habit of panicking and going too far is, of course, something that we all have to deal with at all levels, but I think you're eventually going to have to come to the problem in these minor positions.

The Honorable Claiborne Pell

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February 14, 1979

Incidentally with John removing himself from the art picture, it might be a very good time to raise the subject which had been an issue and which really is a drag. I feel certain that Kyros would go along with it based on my relationship with him and the help I've tried to give him.

All the best and hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Seybolt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chairman,
National Museum Services Board

George C. Seybolt/ja/2/2