

7-22-1988

Museum Services Act (1984): Correspondence 09

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*Extra amendment
to Interior Appropriations*

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM SERVICES • 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Room 510 • Washington, D.C. 20506

1989

July 22, 1988

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Byrd:

We, the members of the National Museum Services Board, are deeply disturbed by the recent actions of the Senate. The Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill was amended to require the Institute of Museum Services to allocate a minimum of one-half of one percent of its grants funds to each state.

This provision undercuts the entire philosophy of the Institute of Museum Services. The competitive process is carefully designed to ensure that grants are based on impartial judgements of quality. Setting state minimums dilutes the impact of these grants. It also decreases the incentives for museums to improve their operations to qualify for grants. Further, private donors would no longer be certain that an IMS grant denotes a high quality institution. IMS also pursues several activities to help museums improve their operations and hence their competitiveness.

At our July 21st meeting, the members of the National Museum Services Board passed a resolution strongly opposing the provision requiring state minimums.

We sincerely hope you will seriously consider our views as the bill goes to conference.

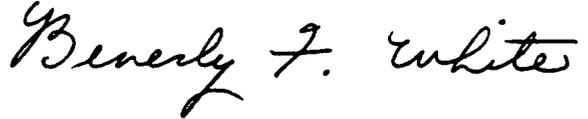
Sincerely,



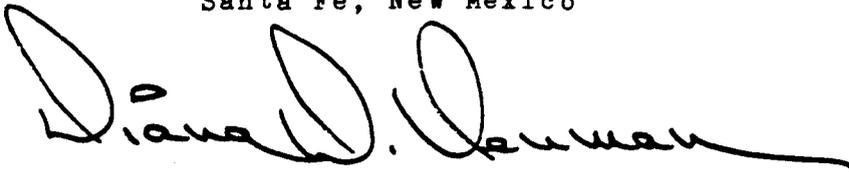
Willard S. Boyd, Chairman
Chicago, Illinois



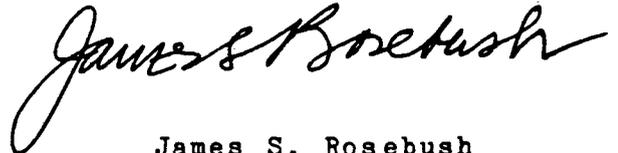
Helmuth J. Naumer
Santa Fe, New Mexico



Beverly F. White
Palm Beach, Florida



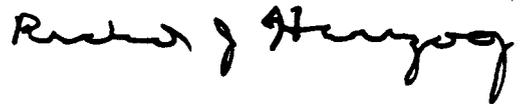
Diana D. Denman
San Antonio, Texas



James S. Rosebush
Washington, D.C.



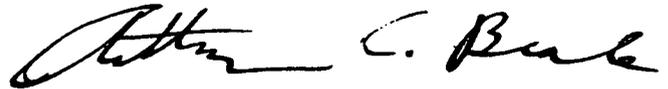
James H. Duff
Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania



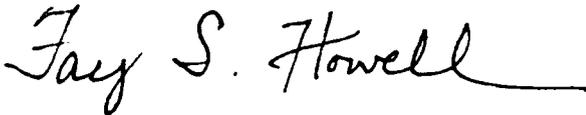
Richard J. Herczog
Los Angeles, California



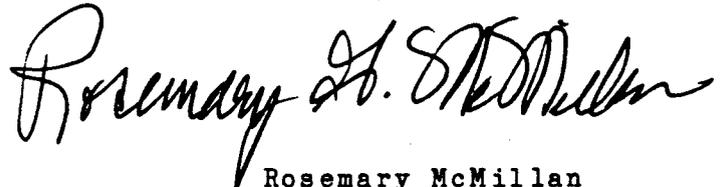
Richard J. Schwartz
Scarborough, New York



Arthur Beale
Boston, Massachusetts



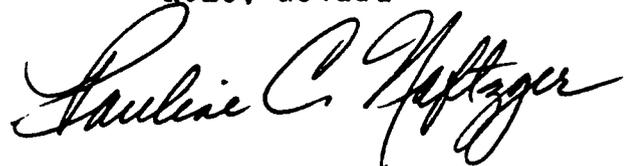
Fay S. Howell
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