8-3-1989

Obscenity: Andres Serrano Controversy (1989): Correspondence 14

Claiborne Pell

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/pell_neh_II_59

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/pell_neh_II_59/34

This Correspondence is brought to you for free and open access by the Education: National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities, Subject Files II (1962-1996) at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in Obscenity: Andres Serrano Controversy (1989) by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons-group@uri.edu.
Ms. Iona Dobbins  
Director  
Rhode Island State Council on the Arts  
95 Cedar Street  
Suite 103  
Providence, RI 02906

Dear Iona:

Thank you very much for calling my office the other day on behalf of the State Council staff and the Rhode Island artists community in regard to the changes proposed in the Senate version of the Arts Endowment's FY 1990 appropriations bill.

I appreciate knowing the depth of feeling against these provisions. The banning of two fine arts organizations from Endowment funding and the Helms amendment with its sweeping implications are the most troubling. It also disturbs me, however, that $400,000 has been reallocated from the Visual Arts Program to two other program areas without any apparent rationale. Should this provision be retained, the blow to our visual arts community would be severe. I would hate to see an entire category such as "Art in Public Places" be eliminated to accommodate this cut.

I am hopeful that the House/Senate conference in September will resolve these issues in favor of the House position and I have indicated my thoughts on this to the conference chairman, Senator Byrd.

With warm regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Education,  
Arts & Humanities