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Humanities Board
Nominee Rejected

From a Times Staff Writer

Despite intense lobbying by National Endowment for the Humanities Chairman Lynne V. Cheney, the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee on Wednesday voted down the nomination of a controversial New York University professor for a seat on the endowment's 25-member advisory board.

Carol Iannone was rejected on a 9-8 vote. Iannone was controversial not only because her credentials for serving on the board were questioned, but also because she had become a symbol of discontent over Cheney's leadership. Cheney's critics contend that the endowment increasingly tilts away from multicultural approaches to humanities studies in favor of projects that underline the primacy of a common Western heritage.

More than a half-dozen major humanities groups had joined in the fight to defeat Iannone.