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Claiborne Pell

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June 29, 1982

Ms. Lora Jean Gardiner  
President  
Rhode Island State  
Poetry Society  
870 Lafayette Road  
North Kingstown, R.I.  02852

Dear Ms. Gardiner:

Thank you very much for your recent letter in which you so eloquently stress how important the National Endowment for the Arts is to the quality of life in this country.

I am strongly supportive of maintaining the same level of funding for the Endowment from Fiscal Year 1982 to 1983. In other words, I would like to see the current budget of $145 million sustained into the coming year. This would allow the Endowment to continue its crucial support of organizations such as Poets & Writers, Inc.

I appreciate the fact that you have taken the time to write me on this important issue. As you know, the health and vitality of the Arts Endowment is of very special concern to me and I will do everything I can to obtain as high a budget as possible in these difficult times.

With warm regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

AC/asy