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Claiborne Pell

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June 3, 1981

Professor Patricia M. Blough
160 Brown Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02906

Dear Professor Blough:

Thank you very much for your recent letter in regard to the proposed cuts in the budget of the National Science Foundation.

In my opinion, the Science Foundation cuts recommended by the Reagan Administration are too severe and not in the long run interest of science or the nation. I am particularly alarmed by the proposal to eliminate science education from the functions of the Foundation and to drastically reduce support for the social and behavioral sciences.

As you may know, I recently voted against passage of the Senate budget resolution which set forth cuts even more severe than those advocated by President Reagan. One of the reasons I did this was my deep concern that the proposed reductions were too drastic and clearly not in the best interest of our country. Even though my position did not prevail, I shall continue to secure adequate funding for these areas which I consider a vital national resource.

Thank you again for writing me. I will definitely keep your views in mind as the Congress continues its consideration of the budget.

With warm regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

AC/3b