Arts, Humanities, and Cultural Affairs Act (1976): Memorandum 01

Robert Wade
Memorandum

TO: LIVINGSTON BIDDLE & JACK DUNCAN

FROM: Robert Wade

DATE: 2/26/76

SUBJECT: NFAH Act of 1965, as amended

In 1973 when the Act was amended with reference to State bloc grant provisions, former paragraph 4 relating to the 50% limitation on the total costs of any project which may be paid for by the Federal bloc grant monies was, inadvertently, I believe, deleted from the new reauthorization bill.

The new law, as you know, in paragraph 5(g) 4(A) allows a waiver of matching on the part of the Chairman under certain circumstances, provided that allotments exempt from the 50% limitation shall not exceed 20% of the total of all State allotments for the fiscal year. Since old paragraph 4 containing the 50% requirement is no longer in the law due to "accidental" causes, a technical amendment to the new reauthorization bill is required to correct this omission.

This can be done either by simply reinserting old paragraph 4 as new paragraph 4, and renumbering present paragraph 4 as paragraph 5, and present paragraph 5 as new paragraph 6. The new paragraph 4 would read as follows (same as old paragraph 4):

"(4) The amount of each allotment to a State for any fiscal year under this subsection shall be available to each State, which has a plan approved by the Chairman in effect on the first day of such fiscal year, to pay not more than 50 per centum of the total cost of any project or production described in paragraph (1)."

The same end would be accomplished by modifying present paragraph (5)(g)(1) to read as follows:
"The Chairman, with the advice of the National Council on the Arts, is authorized to establish and carry out a program of grants-in-aid to assist the several States in supporting existing projects and productions which meet the standards and requirements enumerated in /Section 5(c)/ subsections (c) and (e) of section 5 of this Act, and in developing projects and productions in the arts in such a manner as will furnish adequate programs, facilities, and services in the arts to all the people and communities in each of the several States."

(New language underlined - old in brackets.)