Claiborne Pell

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Dear Fran:

I have pulled together some figures relating to private sector support for the arts which you might find useful.

In 1966, the first full year of the Arts Endowment's life, corporate support for the arts was placed at $22 million annually. Today, that annual support has been determined by the Business Committee for the Arts to be more than $435 million.

Support for the arts from state governments was approximately $2.6 million in 1966 while today, state arts councils are granting more than $110 annually with state appropriated funds.

Of particular significance is the fact that during the ten-year period before the Endowment's establishment, support from the entire private sector rose less than 3 percent or from an estimated $199 million in 1955 to $205 million in 1964. In the fifteen-year period since the Endowment's birth this figure has increased to a staggering $2.7 billion.

Private support has clearly gone hand in hand with the Endowment's growth and it will be a shame to see this momentum side-tracked.

I hope this material will be helpful. Be sure to let me know if you need additional data.

With warm personal regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell