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July 24, 1978

Mr. Bernard B. Lopez
Executive Director
New Mexico Arts Commission
Lew Wallace Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

Dear Mr. Lopez:

I appreciate having the opportunity to respond to your letter opposing the inclusion of the Arts and Humanities Endowments in a new Department of Education.

I favor the concept of according the arts and humanities cabinet-level status and recognition. I believe this could ultimately be accomplished through a Department of Education and Culture which guarantees that the position of the arts and humanities is strengthened and not diminished. I realize, however, that achieving this goal may not be possible at this time. Accordingly, I favor the establishment of a Department of Education that does not include the two Endowments.

Again, thank you for writing.

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Fell
Chairman
Subcommittee on Education,
Arts, and Humanities

AC:cf