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# Arts and Humanities: Senate Report (1976): Speech 04

Claiborne Pell

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~~Title V, Part B of the Committee bill authorizes creation of an American Bicentennial Photography and Film Project.~~

This project was inspired by the memorable and invaluable work produced by Farm Security Administration photographers who documented for posterity the era of the 1930's. The purpose of the project is to stimulate production of a similar body of work which will provide a lasting documentation of the communities and people of the United States in the Bicentennial era.

The bill authorizes state arts agencies to apply to the National Endowment for the Arts for support of one or more photography or film projects. The Endowment is directed to give priority to consideration for projects which involve unemployed or underemployed photographers and film makers. The Endowment is also authorized to provide for the collection and dissemination of the work. The Committee would encourage the Endowment and state arts agencies to make the films and photographs produced available to the greatest possible number of American citizens, whether their interest is personal or professional.

The Committee bill authorizes states to use some of the funds received for "acquiring essential equipment and supplies, and for administrative or supervisory personnel" and other functions. The Committee wishes to emphasize that such funds are to be used only to pay for the services of administrative or supervisory personnel directly involved in carrying out the Bicentennial Photography and Film Projects: In addition, the

Committee wants to emphasize that it does not expect that significant investments would be made by state agencies in equipment under this program. Purchases of equipment should be undertaken only if they are considered to be essential to the implementation of a particularly promising project which would not be carried out without such purchases.

B

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
LABOR AND PUBLIC WELFARE

A

The Committee received testimony yesterday the need for a photographic record of high quality to properly capture the Nation at its ~~2~~ second century milestone. Now, only the most promising <sup>experienced</sup> and skillful artist among those unemployed or underemployed should be given priority under ~~B~~ Section 523(a)(2). The Committee wishes to assure that highly qualified photographers are employed to undertake this effort, so that the resulting collection of film and photography reflects the best artistry of our times.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

(B)

The Comm.  
wishes to note  
that while there  
is no mandatory  
requirement for  
matching funds  
for this program, the  
Fund does have  
the auth. to req.  
matching in  
all appropri. cases.