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Claiborne Pell

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August 16, 1979

Honorable Donald W. Stewart
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Stewart:

Thank you very much for your recent letter and for your supportive comments in regard to the reauthorization of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Hearings were held in late June to discuss the reauthorization of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act. Many witnesses, including the American Arts Alliance, echoed Mrs. Ayers’ desire to see a dramatic increase in the level of funding for the Arts Endowment over the next five years.

I believe that it is the responsibility of the Congress to set actual dollar figures, and I intend to propose such figures as we continue to develop this extension legislation. At this time, however, I cannot be sure exactly what figures the Subcommittee will agree on.

I greatly appreciate knowing of your interest in the National Endowment for the Arts and of your support for an increase in its authorized budget. I will certainly keep your comments, as well as those of Mrs. Ayers, in mind as the reauthorization process continues.

Warm regards.

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell
Chairman
Subcommittee on Education, Arts, and Humanities

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