

1984

## Letters (1984): Correspondence 94

Claiborne Pell

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25  
January 18, 1984

Mr. Henry E. Kates  
President  
New England Financial Group  
11 Westminster Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Hank:

The National Heritage Resource Act which, as you know, is designed to reverse the decline in donations of creative works to non-profit cultural institutions, is currently awaiting action in the House of Representatives. The bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Finance but no action is anticipated there until the House clears the proposal.

I regret the very slow pace of this important proposal. As an original co-sponsor, I continue to believe that authors and artists should be allowed to claim an income tax deduction for the fair market value of works which they donate to museums, libraries and similar institutions. The current restriction may seriously affect scholarly and academic research and be responsible for keeping great artistic and literary creations out of the public sphere.

I am enclosing a copy of a statement that I made at the time this legislation was introduced last year.

With warm regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

AC/ap