Duffey, Joseph: Humanities Chairman Nomination Hearing (September 9, 1977): Conference Proceeding 04

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Resolution 46.

THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR CITIES

WHEREAS, surveys, public demand and increasing private support and participation indicate that citizen involvement with the arts is strong and growing; and

WHEREAS, continued growth of the arts in quantitative and qualitative ways can no longer be sustained by traditional support resources;

WHEREAS, the arts are an essential element in providing the opportunity for a quality urban environment,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the United States Conference of Mayors adopts the following principles as guidelines for city action:

1. That city governments recognize the arts as an essential service, equal in importance to other essential services, and help to make the arts available to all their citizens.

2. That every city be encouraged to establish a public agency specifically concerned with the arts.

3. That the physical appearance of the city, its architectural heritage and its amenities, be acknowledged as a resource to be nurtured.

4. That cities should be encouraged to establish a percentage of the total costs of every municipal construction budget to be set aside for the purchase or commission of works of art.

5. That city governments working together with the public at large shall help to effect a new national goal: "That no American shall be deprived of the opportunity to experience (or to respond artistically to) the beauty in life by barrier of circumstance, income, background, remoteness or race."