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Curran, Edward: Confirmation Hearing (1985): Correspondence 18

Philip Bradshaw

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The Honorable Senator
United States Senate
Washington, DC 21510

September 26, 1985

Dear Senator Bell:

As you attend hearings in October in The Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources to consider the confirmation of Mr. Edward Curran as head of the National Endowment for the Humanities, please make sure that

1. he cares about the National Endowment for the Humanities,

2. he will support and protect the intellectual integrity of the NEH,

3. he will represent the humanities strongly and in a balanced way to the Congress and the American people,

4. and that he will support the work of teachers and scholars in the humanities, at a time when there is great confusion about the values and place of the humanities in the national life, encouraging instead an overwhelming interest in and devotion to the pragmatic and technological studies.

Mr. Curran's ambiguous statements as nominee and later as head of the National Institute for Education--favoring it during his confirmation and recommending its abolition after his confirmation--raises in one's mind questions--will he do the same again with regard to the National Endowment for the Humanities?

Yours sincerely,

Philip Bradshaw
Member, Modern Language Association
Professor (Retired), University of Florida