

Congress 2

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

January 22, 1996

Dear Mr. Speaker:

As long time supporters of continued federal funding for the arts and humanities, we are deeply concerned about continued current year funding for the NEA and NEH after January 26.

As you know, the Interior Appropriations conference report passed by both the House and Senate in December produced cuts of 39 percent and 36 percent respectively for NEA and NEH. Cuts in the NEA are already being felt by state arts education programs for school children, small town symphony orchestras, theaters, and museums. Similarly, local programming, such as the kind found at libraries and museums, are being threatened with the cuts in NEH, as are the critical preservation programs that help maintain our nation's historic documents and artifacts.

We are concerned that further cuts in NEA and NEH, particularly in view of the agreement we made last summer, would undermine good faith efforts to ensure a smooth transition from the current federally-subsidized arts and humanities structure to alternative sources of financing.

The NEA has made a good faith effort to prioritize its needs. For example, NEA is working to reduce the need for appropriated funds through the development of expanded giving to the arts by corporations and other private sources. NEA is also improving existing partnerships with states and local communities as well as exploring innovative ways of generating earned income for the arts.

The federal investment made by these two small agencies over the past thirty years has given many Americans the real opportunity to appreciate the countless benefits provided by the arts and humanities in their communities -- something they might never have experienced without this minimal assistance. We believe that if NEA and NEH funding can be continued at least at the level passed by the conference committee last year, it will help ensure that the arts and humanities will be there for future generations to enjoy.

We stand ready to meet with you to discuss alternative funding mechanisms that will continue the existence of the NEA and NEH.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Paul Lugo

Ann Hylton

Michelle

Wendy J. Johnson

Mary Rankema

Pat G. Tindall

J. Lusk

Doug Baer

Mike Forbes

Jeff Brinkley

Stephen Horn

Jim Alb

Louise Myer

John Crowder

Sam Gilman

Steve Gundersen

Sam Kelly

Jack

Jack Quinn

Jim Walsh

Tom Davis

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

DECEMBER 1996/JANUARY 1997

105TH CONGRESS PREPARES TO BEGIN NEW LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The House and Senate both held recent organizational meetings to choose political party leaders, vote on committee chairs, and assign the new members of Congress to committees.

Even though most committee assignments have been completed (*see listings below*), they will not be official until after the new members of Congress are sworn in this January. At that time, subcommittee appointments will also be announced.

While Democrats picked up a few extra seats on some committees as a result of the smaller Republican majority in the next Congress, the overall party composition of the committees has not changed very much.

Moderates Could Flex New Political Muscle

One thing, however, does seem clear -- congressional centrists, or moderates, are expected to wield significantly more political power

than they have in the past. There is simply too small a gap in the numbers of Democrats and Republicans in Congress for the extremists in either party to be politically viable.

Congressional moderates will therefore hold an important swing vote on many key legislative initiatives. Once again, moderates have banded together in informal coalitions which will meet regularly to discuss their legislative agendas and to craft their own proposals on key issues.

The two principal "moderate" groups in the House are called the "Tuesday Lunch Bunch" (composed of Republicans), and "Blue Dogs" (composed of Democrats). In the Senate, the primary moderate group is called the "Breaux-Chafee Group," in recognition of Sens. Breaux (D-LA) and Chafee (R-RI) who serve as its leaders.

For a complete listing of moderate members of Congress who have affiliated themselves with one of these groups, contact the Alliance or your service organization.

Hope Remains for Bipartisan Action

Many Congressional observers remain hopeful that the spirit of

bipartisanship which marked the rhetoric immediately following the November elections will translate into action in the next Congress. The public stance so far taken by congressional leaders and newcomers alike has generally been conciliatory. However, despite the pledge of bipartisanship, the arts community will undoubtedly face an uphill battle on many arts-related issues, not the least of which will be preserving the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

The future of the NEA is likely to be dealt with once again within the context of the annual appropriations cycle. Some members of Congress are certain to want to uphold the agreement made by the House in the last Congress to discontinue funding for the agency after the current fiscal year ends on September 30, 1997.

The start of a new Congress marks an important opportunity for the American Arts Alliance and the arts community in general to educate new lawmakers on the importance of a federal role in the arts. It also offers a challenge to build solid political support for the policies important to the arts community.

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September 10, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR LEON PANETTA

FROM: MELANNE VERVEER

RE: FY '97 NEA Appropriations

I understand that Jane Alexander has requested to talk to you about NEA's FY '97 appropriations. Jane believes that there is strong support for an add-on in the Senate. Senators Bennett and Jeffords intend to offer an amendment to increase the House-passed \$99.5 million level by \$5 to \$15 million, if and when the Interior appropriations bill reaches the Senate floor. NEA believes Gorton will take the amendment. Nevertheless, there won't be time to conference that bill, and it seems certain Interior will be in a C.R.

The Administration originally asked for \$136 million for NEA in FY '97. The House-passed Interior appropriations bill provided \$99.5 million. Although the \$99.5 million is level funding from FY '96, it represents a 39% cut from FY '95.

Jane hopes that a likely C.R. will include a \$20 million increase and believes it would be accepted in the context of the overall C.R. negotiations if the White House asks for it and stands by it.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 30, 1995

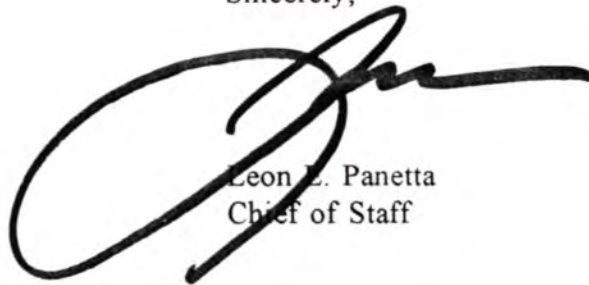
Ms. Jane Alexander
Chairman
National Endowment for the Arts
The Nancy Hanks Center
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Jane:

Thank you for your recent letter expressing concern about the funding level and content restrictions in the Interior Appropriations Bill that would affect the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). We share your concern regarding the funding issue. A statement opposing the severe funding cuts for NEA has been included in the most recent correspondence regarding the Interior Bill from the Office of Management and Budget to the Committee on Appropriations. With respect to the language issues, as you may know, the Office of Management and Budget recently cleared, and the Department of Justice forwarded, a letter to Congressman Yates that questioned the constitutionality of the restrictions.

I know this has been a difficult year for the Arts Endowment. Your efforts on behalf of the agency are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Leon E. Panetta
Chief of Staff

cc: Harold Ickes
Melanne Verveer
Ken Apfel
Larry Haas

60

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
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ARTS

*The Federal agency
that supports the
visual, literary and
performing arts to
benefit all Americans*

*Office of the
Chairman*

Arts in Education

*Challenge &
Advancement*

Dance

Design

Expansion Arts

*Folk & Traditional
Arts*

International

Literature

Local Arts Agencies

Media Arts

Museum

Music

*Opera/Musical
Theater*

Presenting

State & Regional

Theater

Visual Arts

September 22, 1995



Leon Panetta
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Leon:

The Interior Bill, which emerged from Conference this week reduces the appropriations of the National Endowment for the Arts by almost 40%, from 162.4 million to 99.5 million.

More disturbing to me, however, is passage of two Helms amendments which will surely result in costing the American taxpayers millions of dollars in lawsuits should they become final.

The legislation contains content restrictions on Arts Endowment funding which were added without any discussion of their substantive meaning and reach. Legislating on any appropriations bill is always inappropriate. The restrictions themselves raise serious constitutional questions. Under existing law, the Arts Endowment does not fund obscene material and judges applications strictly on the highest standards of artistic excellence and merit. No additional content restrictions on this appropriations bill are appropriate or necessary.

The National Endowment for the Arts serves an important mission to extend the reach of the arts to all Americans and to encourage and recognize the very best of artistic achievement. I want the agency funded at a level that allows it to carry on its valuable functions.

Thank you for any help you can give us.

Sincerely yours,


Jane Alexander
Chairman

cc: Harold Ickes
Melanne Verveer

48461

Correspondence Unit Tracking System Routing Form

Currently Routed To: HR

Status: OPEN

OMB Control Number: 48461 Action Date: 10/13/95
 Routing Number: 1
 Correspondent: CHAIRMAN JANE ALEXANDER
 Subject: NEA (NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS), APPROPRIATIONS, REDUCTION,
 CONCERN
 Lead To: HR
 Info Copies: DO, DD, DDM, GC, WONG, AD/COM, PAD/HR, AD/B, AD/LRD
 Handling: REGULAR

SHORT SUMMARY OF MATERIALS

Draft reply to Jane Alexander, Chairman of the NEA, regarding her letter to the Chief of Staff voicing concern about the Interior Appropriation Bill provisions for reduced funding and content restrictions for the NEA.

HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

Coordinate With:
 Response Due To: PAD/HR By: 10/26/95
 For: DRAFT RESPONSE FOR THE SIGNATURE OF THE COS
 - 10/27/95

DISPATCH INFORMATION

Dispatched:

Signed Date:

Route To	Sign Off	Signed By/For	Date/Time	Comments
HR For White	Sign	For White	10/25/95 9:20A	10/24 ED Branch, Mustain/Fairhall JAW VF
PAD/HR For Apfel	Sign	For		
GC For Damus	Sign	For		
AD/LA For Kieffer	Sign	For		

*I don't see why we would write back to a member of the Administration
 Let's just file it
 -K*

[illegible]

DRAFT

Ms. Jane Alexander
Chairman
National Endowment for the Arts
The Nancy Hanks Center
1100 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Jane:

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with respect to the language issues, as you may know,
~~We also share your concerns regarding the content restrictions contained in the proposed~~
bill. The Office of Management and Budget recently cleared, and the Department of Justice forwarded, a letter to Congressman Yates that questioned the constitutionality of the restrictions.

I know this has been a difficult year for the Arts Endowment. Your efforts on behalf of the agency are greatly appreciated. ~~Please be assured that we will do all we can to retain a level of funding for NEA that allows it to continue its important cultural, educational, and artistic mission.~~

Sincerely ,

Leon E. Panetta
Chief of Staff

cc: Harold Ickes
Melanne Verveer
Ken Apfel
Larry Haas

*DAW
Please see
Draft for CSR
sig.*

Thank.

Adm

1 party, whenever the court determines such award is appro-
2 priate.”.

3 (168)SEC. 333. Notwithstanding any other provision
4 of law, none of the funds authorized to be appropriated pur- *to the National Endowment*
5 suant to this Act may be used to promote, disseminate, *for the Arts*
6 sponsor or produce materials or performances which deni-
7 grate the objects or beliefs of the adherents of a particular
8 religion.

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11 Endowment for the Arts under this Act may be used to pro-
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13 formances that depict or describe, in a patently offensive
14 way, sexual or excretory activities or organs.

15 (170)SEC. 335. Public Law 94-158 is modified to ex-
16 tend the scope of the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Act to
17 include exhibitions originating in the United States and
18 touring the United States for indemnification subject to the
19 availability of funds.

20 (171)SEC. 336. **ENERGY SAVINGS AT FEDERAL FACILITIES.**

21 (a) **REDUCTION IN FACILITIES ENERGY COSTS.**—The
22 head of each agency for which funds are made available
23 under this Act shall take all actions necessary to achieve
24 during fiscal year 1996 a 5 percent reduction, from fiscal



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

October 19, 1995

THE DIRECTOR

Honorable David R. Obey
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Obey:

The purpose of this letter is to provide the Administration's views on H.R. 1977, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 1996, as approved in conference. As you revise the conference bill, your consideration of the Administration's views would be appreciated.

The Administration has worked closely with both Houses to identify the most troublesome and, in some cases, the most egregious aspects of this bill, with the goal of arriving at a bill that serves specific, vital interests and that could be signed by the President. We recognize the efforts of the conferees to restore funding partially for programs serving Native Americans, to make other adjustments in funding, and to attempt to correct legislative riders.

Unfortunately, the effort has fallen considerably short, and several significant funding and language issues remain to be improved upon, if the President is to sign this bill. Specifically, on the basis of funding shortfalls and significant concerns with certain legislative riders that have been thoroughly discussed with the conference committee, the Vice President stated on September 22nd that if Congress sent the President the FY 1996 Interior Appropriations Bill as approved by the conference committee, the President would veto it.

Funding Issues

The first funding issue that must be addressed is restored funding to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) budget. The conference action has yielded an increase of \$86 million, bringing funding to the Senate level. However, the conference mark would still leave the program about \$136 million short of the House mark of \$1,683 million, which was already \$48 million below the FY 1995 enacted level. The most significant effect of this action remains the crippling reductions targeted at tribal priority allocation programs, which support essential tribal government, law enforcement, housing improvement, general assistance, Indian child welfare, adult vocational training, road maintenance, and other reservation programs. The Administration's view is that funding must be substantially restored for these programs.

Another significant funding issue that must be addressed concerns the conference committee's severe cut to the President's request for the Department of Energy's energy conservation programs. In the conference report, the conservation programs are funded at \$553 million, which corresponds to a net appropriation of \$536 million after deducting offsetting collections. This is \$187 million, or 26 percent, below the net FY 1995 enacted level of \$723 million, and 38 percent below the President's request. The State grants program, State Energy Conservation Program, and especially the weatherization programs have also been severely reduced -- to \$141 million, which is 47 percent below the FY 1995 enacted level. Funding for these programs must also be restored significantly in order to reach acceptable levels.

In addition to the language issues addressed below, the President will not sign an Interior Appropriations bill unless funding for these programs is significantly restored without harming other high-priority programs, or, unless there is an overall agreement between the Congress and the Administration on budget priorities that addresses the Administration's fundamental concerns about spending priorities both in this bill and elsewhere.

Language Issues

The conference committee has chosen to continue the inclusion of numerous legislative riders in the bill that the Administration finds seriously objectionable. Despite efforts to address some of these concerns, several of these provisions are so serious that the Administration sees no way to remedy them, short of removing them altogether, so that the President could sign this bill. The most serious provisions are:

- o the failure to continue a mining patent moratorium, and, instead, to incorporate the highly objectionable Senate language that would direct the Secretary of the Interior to accelerate action on pending patent applications and grant surface patents at fair market value, ignoring the much more valuable sub-surface values;
- o the Tongass (Alaska) forest management provisions that adopt the offensive Senate language and include sufficiency language. These provisions would dictate the use of a 1992 forest plan that ignores the most

recent scientific information, and would make permanent one provision of the emergency timber programs adopted in P.L. 104-19, the FY 1995 rescission bill;

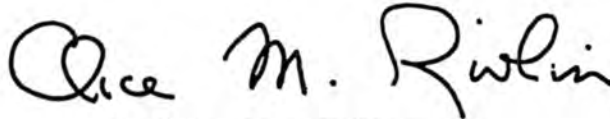
- o the Interior Columbia River Basin provision that would terminate comprehensive planning for the management of these public lands by prohibiting the publication of the final Environmental Impact Statement or Record of Decision and limiting the contents to exclude information on fisheries and watersheds. It would also risk a return to legal gridlock and our ability to move forward with timber harvesting, grazing, mining, and other economically desirable activities by eliminating current review procedures that are aimed at keeping management actions out of the courts;
- o the transfer of management authorities of the Mojave National Preserve from the National Park Service to the Bureau of Land Management, thus directly attacking the intent of Congress embodied in the landmark 1994 California Desert Protection Act; and
- o the inclusion of Senate language making permanent the protocol for identification of marbled murrelet nests that was included in the FY 1995 rescission bill, thereby limiting our flexibility to use new scientific information. We have urged Congress not to amend the salvage provisions as we implement the requirements of the rescission bill.

These highly objectionable provisions must be dropped.

In addition, the Administration has previously expressed concern about other legislative riders, including the moratorium on future listings under the Endangered Species Act, the Department of Energy efficiency standards one-year moratorium, the 90-day moratorium on grazing regulation implementation, and the provision affecting the Lummi Tribe and seven other self-governance tribes in Washington State. An additional funding issue concerns the severe cuts (nearly 40 percent) to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). These significantly reduced funding levels would jeopardize NEA's and NEH's ability to continue to provide important cultural, educational, and artistic programs for communities across America. The Administration will continue to work with the conferees to address these concerns.

While the Administration appreciates the significant efforts that have gone into the development of the current FY 1996 Interior conference bill, the funding issues and the most egregious legislative riders addressed here must be resolved in order for the President to sign this bill. We will continue in our efforts to work closely with the conferees towards this mutual goal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alice M. Rivlin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alice" being more prominent than the last name "Rivlin".

Alice M. Rivlin
Director

Identical Letters Sent to Honorable Bob Livingston,
Honorable David Obey, Honorable Ralph Regula,
Honorable Sidney R. Yates, Honorable Mark O. Hatfield,
Honorable Slade Gorton, and Honorable Robert C. Byrd

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
ARTS

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

BUDGET UPDATE

*The Federal agency
that supports the
visual, literary and
performing arts to
benefit all Americans*

--The FY 96 Interior Appropriations conference report would provide the NEA \$99.5 million, a cut of 39 percent from the FY 95 level of \$162.4 million. The cuts will force major reductions in staff and grant-giving to artists and institutions throughout the country.

--Other agencies funded by the Interior bill were cut on average only 15 percent.

Arts in Education

*Challenge &
Advancement*

- --The House continues to maintain its position that all funding for the NEA be terminated after next year (FY 97). The Senate continues to support funding indefinitely. The appropriations conference report contains language spelling out this "agreement to disagree" between the two houses and indicates that the issue should be resolved by the legislative committees in the House and Senate.

Dance

Design Arts

Expansion Arts

*Folk &
Traditional Arts*

--The appropriations conference report also includes two content restriction amendments which were offered by Senator Helms without any discussion of their substantive meaning and reach. The restrictions are unnecessary given the existing statutory prohibition on funding obscene materials, and the Endowment's commitment to funding only projects which meet the highest standards of artistic excellence and merit. Furthermore, the restrictions raise serious constitutional questions.

International

Literature

Local Arts Agencies

Media Arts

--The conference report also eliminates most grants to individual artists (painters, photographers, composers, choreographers etc.). However, writers including playwrights, the Heritage Fellows and Jazz Masters grants were excepted from the prohibition.

Museum

Music

- --The appropriations conference report still must clear the House and Senate, but on Friday, September 22, the Vice President announced that the President would veto the bill (largely because of the mining, timber and other environment-related riders on the bill).

*Opera/Musical
Theater*

*Presenting &
Commissioning*

--NEA hopes the President will mention his concern about unnecessary content restrictions on the NEA as part of his veto message.

State & Regional

Theater

--With respect to reauthorization, the phase-out bill pending in the House and the five year reauthorization pending in the Senate will almost certainly be put off until next year.

Visual Arts

September 22, 1995

Leon Panetta
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Leon:

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Jane Alexander
Chairman

cc: Harold Ickes
Melanne Verveer

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*Office of the
Chairman*

Arts in Education

*Challenge &
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6 sponsor or produce materials or performances which deni-
7 grate the objects or beliefs of the adherents of a particular
8 religion.

to the National
Endowment
for the
Arts

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24 during fiscal year 1996 a 5 percent reduction, from fiscal

The **NHA** National Humanities Alliance

20 September 1996

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Melanne:

I write in hopes that, despite your very full plate, you will be willing to try to persuade the White House negotiators on the omnibus spending bill to include the National Endowment for the Humanities and its sister agencies on the list of issues to be negotiated with Congressional leaders.

This year, as with last the "Statement of Administration Policy" on the FY-97 Interior bill included a paragraph on NEH and the other cultural agencies. Unfortunately, as far as I have been able to determine, that status didn't carry to the negotiation table. From what I can tell now, that scenario is being repeated.

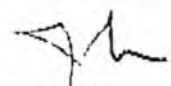
As you know, Senator Gorton has almost singlehandedly handed NEH a 10% decrease for FY-97 when we already suffered a 40% decrease between FY-95 and FY-96. We would minimally like to be restored to the present level of \$110 million but of course would be delighted to have the President's negotiators push for the number proposed in the President's budget of \$136. Anything in between would be gratefully used to move NEH back toward being able to support the best that it is offered. No serious charges beyond vague Culture War cant has been directed at NEH yet the agency stands to lose more than almost any other agency including NEA.

The arts endowment is a special problem. Although they have recognized that the House was unlikely to accept it, a bipartisan group of Senators is seeking to amend the Interior bill to at least symbolically demonstrate support for the retention of the NEA. The Omnibus legislation would appear to be a situation where an increase for NEA would be more likely to be sustained when the bill is voted upon.

I realize that negotiation of the type underway operate far from the usual arguments about the value of a particular agency to the American people and the quality of civic life. Nonetheless, I would be pleased to provide such argumentation should it appear appropriate.

Thank you in advance for once again doing what you can NEH et al

Yours sincerely



John Hammer

1110 11th St NW
Washington D. 20036

TEL 202/294-1401 FAX 202/677-0884
Internet: JHAMMER@AOL

13 August 1996

MEMORANDUM

TO: NHA Members and Friends
FR: John Hammer

RE: NEH in the Waning Days of the 104th Congress

On August 3, Congress left behind a flurry of just completed legislation as it departed Washington for campaigning, conventions, and just plain vacations. The fate of the FY-1997 budget for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) was left unresolved but basically the agency is likely to end up with an appropriation of somewhere between \$99.5 million and \$110 million either through a completed appropriations or, as is increasingly likely, through a Continuing Resolution along with other incomplete appropriations bills as Congress rushes to return to the campaign trenches. At this point there are several straws in the wind that may affect NEH's funding for the coming fiscal year and general health in the near term.

- o The House leadership is determined to phase out the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) at the end of FY-97. Several of the Senators who are very supportive of NEH, feel that first priority should be given to delivering a forceful signal to the House that the Senate strongly supports NEA. Because line items to reduce to produce funds for an amendment are very tight, schemes to increase the arts endowment almost necessary come from the same sources needed to restore NEH's funds;

- o While the phase out intent for NEH is vaguer -- especially since it has now been fairly well established on the record that NEH was not considered at all in the deal that permitted the endowments to receive FY-96 appropriations. That arrangement, which was entered into among Ralph Regula (R-OH), chair of the Interior and Related Agencies Subcommittee (i.e., the appropriators for the NEH, NEA and other cultural agencies), the House GOP leadership, and most other GOP House members, promised that the arts endowment would be phased out along the schedule included in a "reauthorization" bill that cleared the House Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee (EEO), which called for the phase out of NEA in two years and NEH in three years. The EEO bill, known as the Goodling bill has not been taken to the House floor and many observers have long doubted that the leadership would bring this bill up because of its likely defeat. (See next point) - Nonetheless, while perhaps not as ardently felt as it is for NEA, the House leadership appears to want NEH phased out and is likely to take steps in that direction in the coming months. Note: The recently adopted GOP platform

far the 1996 presidential campaign calls for termination of federal funding in several areas including the arts and humanities.

- o The ranks of the GOP moderates has grown during the life of the 104th Congress with much of the growth coming from freshmen who have stepped back from their early positions of voting in lock-step with the House leadership. Early signs point to an even wider center when the new House gathers in January. On the other hand, Senate retirements by moderates in both parties suggest that the Senate may be somewhat less friendly to NEH than the present.

- o Finally, the longer term appropriations picture is clouded by the deficit deduction agreements between the Clinton administration and the Congress. Discretionary spending initiatives and regular on-going support are likely to be increasingly difficult no matter which party controls the houses of Congress and the White House.

But, regardless how the election and future events unfold, the NEH has suffered a good deal of damage at the hand of the 104th Congress. The agency entered FY-1995 (a month before the 1994 Congressional elections) with a budget of \$177 million and robust, highly competitive programs -- As William G. Bowen of the Mellon Foundation characterized it, the largest single supporter of the humanities in the nation. A \$5 million rescission from the FY-95 budget, followed by a 36% cut resulted in a FY-1996 of \$110 million (with government shutdowns and confusion to boot) left the agency still critically important both for the public and the humanities community. But the disproportionate reductions NEH has suffered have a high price both now and in the future in all areas of NEH activity. For example, in FY-1996:

- o NEH's seminars and institutes for high school and college teachers will support participation of 1,400 teachers who in turn will reach 220,000 students with intellectually reinvigorated instruction. That means 200,000 fewer students than were reached in FY-95 when 2,600 teachers participated;

- o NEH's projects to preserve fragile books, newspapers, documents, and artifacts held in the nation's libraries, museums, and other cultural institutions have been at the forefront of the effort to save such materials. The FY-96 reductions have forced NEH to make fewer and smaller grants. As a result, 20,000 brittle books and 230,000 disintegrating pages of historically significant newspapers will not be microfilmed. In addition, 130,000 objects of archaeological, ethnographic, and/or historical importance to the nation will not be preserved;

o In its program for preparation of scholarly editions of presidential and other important historical figures, NEH's support is central to projects searching out and drawing together key documents from thousands of repositories in virtually every state. Due to the FY-96 cuts, NEH was forced to end the special Editions Program for these papers. This means that the 40 on-going editions projects will compete with 400 collaborative research projects for no more than 20 awards. Unless a less draconian budget situation can be arrived at, no more than 3 or 4 of the on-going presidential projects will continue to receive NEH funding;

o NEH support for museum exhibitions, television and radio programming, and other public activities have been substantially reduced. This means that NEH may not discover the next Ken Burns who brought such documentaries as "The Civil War" and (forthcoming) "The West", or the next Henry Hampton, who brought us "The Great Depression" both of whom got their start with NEH funding;

o Finally, the support of scholarship is the fundamental underpinning for all other activities supported by the NEH because all of the endowment's projects: film, library, museum, state humanities council, high school or college institute, draw upon scholarship in one form or another. NEH is especially important as the largest single source of support for humanities scholarship and research. Support for scholarly research was especially hard hit by the sharp reductions in FY-96 because Congress, with little or no animus toward scholarship, nonetheless moved to lessen the impact of the reductions on state programs and preservation. This form of relative shelter had the unintended effect of further squeezing all other NEH programs.

In its consideration of funding for NEH and certain other federal cultural agencies, the 104th Congress has been especially fond of the idea that there are dozens of alternatives to federal funding. Leaders of the House of Representatives have suggested that NEH can endure large reductions because foundations and others will pick up the slack. A 1996 report for the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities entitled Looking Ahead: Private Sector Giving in the Arts and Humanities, researched and written by Nina Kressner Cobb had two significant findings with regard to NEH:

o The private sector cannot fill the void of financial support for the humanities should the federal presence cease to exist; and

o The NEH is still the single largest source of support for the humanities nationwide compared to the private sector and to other units of government.

NEH is central to the health and vitality of the humanities enterprise. The losses of the last two years will take years to recoup. Even when the zeal of the reformers of the 104th Congress has cooled -- and many think that process is well along -- the politics of the deficit, and the other reduced programs with compelling claims on the federal budget, suggest a long recovery period at best.



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The Nancy Hanks Center
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington DC 20506-0001
202/682-5400

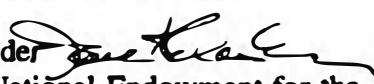
Office of the Chairman

MEMORANDUM

September 24, 1996

SENT BY FAX (456-1121)
ON 9/24/96

To: Leon E. Panetta
Chief of Staff to the President

From: Jane Alexander 
Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts

Re: FY 97 NEA funding

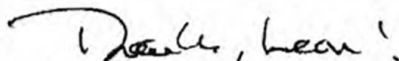
I appreciate your requesting a \$10 million increase for NEA in the CR/Omnibus bill.

The value of this symbolic victory for the cultural community - should we be successful - goes way beyond the dollars involved. It represents a political victory for the White House and the Democrats in Congress. The arts are a big industry, and many organizations and jobs continue to be threatened by the recent cut-backs.

Reps. Gingrich and Armey continue to oppose any increase for NEA. I understand they accepted the proposed increase for the Humanities Endowment, which confirms my belief that their opposition to us has nothing to do with the budget, and everything to do with punishment.

I'm working very hard to buck up our Senate supporters including Senators Hatfield, Bennett, Jeffords, Kennedy, Pell, Leahy and others.

You have been a strong and consistent supporter. I hope you will continue to stand by us as this moves forward during the days ahead.



Brademas

MEET THE PRESS

WITH TIM RUSSERT

MR. RUSSERT: Do you think President Clinton's honest?

Sunday, July 14, 1996

SEN. LOTT: You know, all I know is he says that he wants to get welfare reform, but when we send it to him, he vetoes it.

SEN. DASCHLE: Well, that's because it's an extreme bill, Trent.

SEN. LOTT: He says he wants a balanced budget amendment, but when we send it to him, he vetoes it. I mean, it's hard for me to justify when he's saying one thing, and he's doing another. Because if his words and his actions don't match, now, Tim, now how do you describe that?

SEN. DASCHLE: If the Republicans would come to the middle, the president wouldn't have any trouble signing these bills. It's when they go off the deep end on the right that the president has no choice but to veto the bills. Go to the middle and you'll see signatures. The minimum wage is a very good example.

MR. RUSSERT: Let me close on an issue that there is a discussion, debate within the Republican Party. Senator Lott, the Republicans in the House have said they will cut off all funding for the National Endowment of the Arts next year. Cut it off, period. Eliminate, totally. There are some Republicans in the Senate that are saying, "No, no, no." We want language guaranteeing that funding for the National Endowment for the Arts will go forward. Where do you stand?

SEN. LOTT: Well, first of all, I think you need to note that the House does provide funding this year for the National Endowment for the Arts, and Senator Slade Gorton in the Senate has done a good job on that.

MR. RUSSERT: But should it continue beyond this year?

SEN. LOTT: I think that support for the arts from the people's taxpayers' dollars should be phased out over a reasonable period of time. I think that should be done in the private sector. I support the arts and music. I love the music and the arts and Mississippi has more than its fair share. But to have the federal government as the prime source of financial support, I think, is questionable.

SEN. DASCHLE: I think that's extremism again. I don't see any reason why the American people working as a community can't foster the arts. I think that's in part what this country's all about. It isn't just how strong our economy, but what kind of people we are. And I think the American people, through their government, ought to have the opportunity to encourage and to find ways with which to ensure that we have a flourishing arts community in this country.

SEN. LOTT: You know, I don't impugn Tom Daschle's integrity when he disagrees with me, but when he disagrees with me, he calls it extremism. I gave a very calm, rational answer to a good question and I don't appreciate his response.

SEN. DASCHLE: Well, I must say, I wasn't--this isn't anything personal because, Trent, it's a very...

SEN. LOTT: Well, I mean, you said that was extremism. I mean, I don't think...

SEN. DASCHLE: It was. Well, I believe it is extremism.

(CONT.)

Meet the Press (NBC News) - Sunday, July 14, 1996

SEN. LOTT: Jeez.

SEN. DASCHLE: I don't know what else to call it. It's extreme when you say you're going to abolish entirely the arts program in this country.

SEN. LOTT: I didn't say that. I didn't say that at all.

SEN. DASCHLE: I think that's extremism. You said there would not be any federal funding.

SEN. LOTT: See, there again, he's putting words in my mouth that I didn't say.

MR. RUSSERT: Right. To be continued. Gentlemen, I hope you can get together tomorrow morning.

SEN. LOTT: We'll try it, Tim.

SEN. DASCHLE: We will. You bet.

MR. RUSSERT: Senator Lott, Senator Daschle, thanks very much for a most interesting discussion.

SEN. DASCHLE: Thanks.

MR. RUSSERT: Coming next, a roundtable with the political odd couple James Carville and Mary Matalin and then our MEET THE PRESS Minute, with the late John Chancellor.

(Announcements)

MR. RUSSERT: And we're back on MEET THE PRESS. Here they are, James Carville, Mary Matalin. Welcome back.

MS. MATALIN: You notice the closer we get to the elections, the more stuff we bring to substantiate our...

MR. CARVILLE: Yeah, there's a sp--there's a sterling operation.

MR. RUSSERT: All right. All right.

MR. CARVILLE: Man, the fax machine is about to burn up.

MR. RUSSERT: All right, Mary Matalin, the Dole campaign. Even his closest friends have told me over the last week things have not gone well.

MS. MATALIN: Look, Tim, you know, you've been following politics for a long time. The Washington Post reported this morning the Dole team has nine policy people, the Clinton team has 1.9 million people working for it. The entire government, a fully funded DNC, a fully funded re-election committee, no primary opposition, a White House that is spitting out policy objectives once a week, regardless of what the costs are and regardless of any intention to implement them.

MR. RUSSERT: George Bush had all that.

MAR 22 '96 10:42

P.2

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 5, 1996

The Honorable Newt Gingrich
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Newt:

As the House works on a continuing resolution to fund the remaining appropriations for the rest of this fiscal year and begins hearings on the appropriations bills for FY 1997, we ask you to consider maintaining funding for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) at a sustainable level.

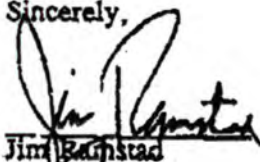
The NEA supports countless programs that enrich communities across the nation. From arts education projects to local theaters, museums, operas and orchestras, the NEA enhances the lives of all of our constituents. Without the NEA, all but the largest and most culturally supportive cities could find themselves unable to support many of the arts institutions they have come to treasure.

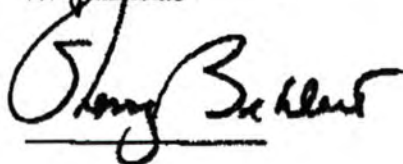
Not only does the NEA provide funding for very worthwhile projects, but it also encourages increased support for the arts from private citizens, public and private organizations, states and communities by requiring non-federal matching funds for most grants. The NEA is working to increase private and corporate support for the arts to make up for the reduced role the federal government will play in funding cultural activities.

We strongly encourage you to provide funding for the NEA at such a level that it may continue to make its important cultural contribution to our communities.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,


Jim Ramstad


Tony Beck


Marge Runkema


Wang L. Johnson

MAR 22 '96 10:43

P.3

P. AllingMire Gade ✓John DixonJan Meyers✓ John HornReck LaysJohn Kelly

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 22, 1996

The Honorable Newt Gingrich
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

We are writing to urge the leadership's support for continued funding of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Last year Congress reduced NEA funding to \$99.5 million, a 39 percent reduction exceeding the cuts imposed upon many other agencies in government. As the Interior Subcommittee considers their FY 1997 funding allocations, we want to express our support for a minimum of \$99.5 million for the NEA.

This year's cut in funding already is affecting the arts as states are having to cut back education programs. Museums, orchestras, dance companies, opera and professional theaters also are scaling back community education and outreach programs for children and families. Further cuts could adversely affect many organizations in our districts which depend upon a combination of private and public funding to supplement earned income. Evidence has shown that income from ticket sales, memberships, etc. fails to cover the cost of all but the most commercial arts projects.

The thirty year federal investment made by the NEA has given many Americans the real opportunity to experience the art created in their own communities. The funding has made possible the placement of thousands of artists-in-residence in our public schools, children's festivals, literacy programs, grants to museums, galleries and orchestras, dance touring, folk and music festivals, mobile Shakespeare festivals and hundreds of other projects.

Rural areas, in particular, depend on NEA support since they do not receive large corporate and foundation contributions. For example, when nobody else was interested in supporting a gathering of western cowboy poets, the NEA did. Now, the annual gathering in Elko, Nevada, is a major event in the cultural life of the west, attended by thousands of people from all over the country. The NEA helped start the Utah Sundance Festival for independent filmmakers, and it continues to support the Fourth of July folk festival on the Mall in Washington, D.C.

The NEA has made efforts to prioritize its needs and substantially reduce its administrative costs through restructuring. They also are improving existing partnerships with states and local communities as well as exploring innovative ways of generating income for the arts.

Recognizing the continuing importance of the work that this small agency is doing, we stand ready to meet with you to discuss alternative funding mechanisms that will allow it to continue its work.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Guth Lyne

Henry Breckner

Sten C. S.

Mike Castle

Anthony S. Ray

Ben Gilman

Jack Quinn

Marge Roukema

Louise Morrell

Nancy S. Johnson

Jim Porter

Wayne T. Gist

Stephen Horn

Tom Davis

Bob Frank	Mike Fisher
Tom Reelingman	Jon D. Fox
Pete C. Tuller	Stacy
Ann Houghton	Jim Walsh
Pete Blute	Steve Kelly
J. L. Linn	James Greenwood
Brian L. Albray	B. C. Linn
E. C. Linn	



April 12, 1996

TO: Arts Advocates
FROM: American Arts Alliance
RE: Activating Support in the Business Community

ADVOCATES FOR THE ARTS

As we work to make our voice heard in Congress, it becomes increasingly clear that lawmakers rightfully look first to their constituents for direction. With your help, we can demonstrate to key lawmakers that business people in their communities strongly support the arts and humanities.

The Cultural Advocacy Group, a consortium of over 50 national arts and humanities service organizations united in support of the federal role in our country's cultural life, is working to remind lawmakers that, nationwide, American business relies on the arts and humanities for economic vitality.

Member Organizations:

American
Symphony
Orchestra
League

Association
of Art
Museum
Directors

Association
of Performing
Arts
Presenters

Dance/USA

OPERA
America

Theatre
Communications
Group

Representing
2,600 Non-profit
Arts Institutions

Last summer, as the fight to preserve federal support for the arts and humanities reached a fever pitch, over 1,000 business leaders sent a message to Congress that businesses depend on their local cultural organizations to provide economic, as well as cultural and social benefits. Many arts advocates gathered the names of business people in support of federal funding for the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum Services. The resulting petitions were delivered to congressional offices and was an influential factor in our attempts to save cultural funding.

As Congress begins debate over NEA, NEH, IMS funding this year, we face new challenges to reinforce our message to Congress that the health of cultural institutions ultimately affects all Americans.

To accomplish our goals, we will gather names of business supporters. Our efforts will target those legislators who will play a critical role in the final legislation, including:

SENATORS

Ted Stevens (R-AK)
Nancy Kassebaum (R-KS)
Pete Domenici (R-NM)
Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY)
Mike DeWine (R-OH)
Slade Gorton (R-WA)

REPRESENTATIVES

Jim Kolbe (R-AZ-5th)	Fred Upton (R-MI-6th)
Gary Franks (R-CT-5th)	Bob Franks (R-NJ-7th)
Tillie Fowler (R-FL-4th)	Bill Zeff (R-NH-1st)
Newt Gingrich (R-GA-6th)	Steve Schiff (R-NM-1st)
Jan Meyers (R-KS-3rd)	Joe Skeen (R-NM-2nd)
Bob Livingston (R-LA-1st)	John Kasich (R-OH-12th)
Peter Blute (R-MA-3rd)	Martin Hoke (R-OH-10th)
Vernon Ehlers (R-MI-3rd)	Ralph Regula (R-OH-16th)
Peter Hoekstra (R-MI-2nd)	Jim Bunn (R-OR-5th)
Joe Knollenberg (R-MI-11th)	Curt Weldon (R-PA-7th)

As a constituent of one of these legislators, we are relying on you to help collect names.

Please contact your vendors and other business supporters and ask them to sign the attached letter. The enclosed "Tips for Success" suggest ways to make light work of this important activity. After you have collected names on the enclosed petition sheets, please return your forms to the Alliance by MAY 24.

1319 F Street, NW

Suite 500

Washington, DC 20004

202.737.1727

Fax 202.628.1258

Tips for Success

Business Petition Campaign
Cultural Advocacy Group

Thank you for helping the Cultural Advocacy Group send Congress the message that American business enthusiastically supports federal funding for the arts and humanities. This targeted campaign will demonstrate to key legislators the vital role of the arts and humanities in the economy.

Here are some suggestions to help you gather signatures:

- ▶ Begin by approaching business people involved with your organization, such as board members and trustees, volunteers, donors, and business vendors. Some types of businesses to approach are:

Restaurants	Civic leaders	Landscapers
Printers	Real estate companies	Mailing houses
Chambers of Commerce	Bookstores	Photographers
Business Executives	Hotels	Taxicab companies
Tour and bus companies	Hardware stores	Electricians
Parking lot operators	Courier services	Drivers
Banks	Theater owners	Accountants
Travel agents	Lawyers	Civic leaders
Caterers	Plumbers	Dry cleaners
Florists	Coffee houses	Retail shops
Contractors	Retirement communities	Graphic designers
Suppliers	Carpenters	Grocery stores

- ▶ CEOs aren't the only ones who benefit economically from the arts -- their employees do too. We encourage you to gather the signatures of clerks, secretaries and taxi drivers as well as executives.
- ▶ If you have a volunteer base, consider recruiting a volunteer to work with you on this effort. A business person with strong chamber of commerce or other civic connections may be highly effective in gathering names.
- ▶ Contact other arts and humanities organizations in your community and recruit their help. We will gladly accept names from all supporters!
- ▶ Encourage those business people who show the greatest commitment to also write or call their lawmakers (see the supplemental sample letter, attached). Ask them to include their phone numbers on the petition in case more information is needed about how the arts and humanities impact businesses. Perhaps they might also agree to post the letter and petition at their business to collect additional signatures.
- ▶ Be creative in your approach to collecting signatures! Those organizations that collected many names in our last effort did so in a variety of ways. One organization was able to distribute copies of the letter and gather signatures at a weekly Rotary Club meeting attended by over 300 business people! Another recruited signatories at a local chamber of commerce meeting. Look at the business pages of your local paper for events that might attract business people and provide great opportunities to collect names.

[This letter will be addressed to targeted legislators.]

The Honorable _____
United States Senate/United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510/20515

Dear Senator/Congressman _____:

As members of the business community, we urge you to give your full support to the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum Services. These agencies play an important role in the economic, cultural and educational life of our community and our state.

The arts and humanities:

- * generate at least four additional dollars in revenue for restaurants, hotels, retail, transportation and parking for every one dollar invested in them.
- * employ more than two million people throughout the country.
- * yield \$3.4 billion annually through federal taxes.
- * leverage up to \$12 from private and public sources for every one dollar of federal money.

The arts and humanities also:

- * make a substantial contribution to the economic vitality of our community and state.
- * help us attract the employees we need to operate our business.
- * improve education for our children and help them achieve better grades and higher SAT scores.
- * increase understanding among the diverse cultures in our community.
- * help us attract tourists, conventions and meetings to our region.
- * enhance the quality of life in our community and state.

The arts and humanities are essential to business and are a key component of the financial well-being of our nation. Federal support is critical to assist us in building public-private partnerships for the arts and humanities in our community and throughout the country. We urge you to vote for maximum federal funding for these three federal agencies.

Sincerely,

PLEASE NOTE: The following is a sample letter to be adapted by those who wish to send an individual letter to their member of Congress in addition to signing onto the business petition letter. The writer is encouraged to add specifics as appropriate.

Date

The Honorable....

United States Senate/United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510/20515

Dear Senator/Congressman....:

I am writing to ask that you support maximum funding for the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum Services in the FY1997 appropriations bill. The arts and humanities have been valuable components for creating vital communities with a healthy business climate, and these cultural agencies have been critical catalysts in this growth. I ask that you support continued funding of these agencies and resist any attempt to diminish or eliminate them.

The arts and humanities are a major industry in our state, employing thousands of people and generating millions of dollars in payroll and construction dollars. Although funding for these agencies is very modest, its importance when supplemented with local business support cannot be overestimated. While I understand the need to reduce the federal budget deficit, these agencies are not the place to look for savings. Every federal dollar granted to an organization leverages many times that in private and other public contributions.

[Please note: The following are two options for paragraph three. A third option is to simply omit this paragraph and conclude with paragraph four.]

Option A: [Company Name] has long held that the arts and humanities benefit [State Name] and the nation economically, socially, intellectually, and culturally. This belief has guided and will continue to guide our corporate giving. The grants made by NEA, NEH, and IMS to local organizations in our [state/district] have played a central role that we and other business sponsors cannot replace. The public-private partnership that [Company Name] and other corporations throughout the nation have developed with these agencies is enormously successful. We remain committed to being vigorous partners with the federal government in helping to fund the arts and humanities, but we cannot do it alone.

Option B: As [Title] of [Company], I believe that the arts and humanities benefit my community economically, socially, intellectually and culturally. Arts and humanities projects made possible by support from the federal cultural agencies help attract business to our community, as well as help create a more engaged and better informed citizenry.

I urge you to ensure that the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum Services continue as vital national agencies.

**Business Petition in Support of the National Endowment for the Arts,
National Endowment for the Humanities, and the
Institute of Museum Services**

(Please PRINT clearly)

Name (print clearly)	Profession	Business	Address	City	State	Zip	Telephone *

* Are you willing to be contacted for more information about how you or your business is involved in the arts and humanities? If so, please include your daytime telephone number. This is not a fundraising call.

Deadline: May 24th, 1996.

Please copy this form as necessary