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2016

# Arts, Humanities, and Museums Amendments: House Report (1993): Correspondence 01

John H. Hammer

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The **NHA** National Humanities Alliance

21 June 1993

**COPY**

The Honorable Pat Williams  
Chair, Labor-Management Relations Subcommittee  
Committee on Education and Labor  
112 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Pat:

I write in connection with the reauthorization of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965. First, this is to formally confirm the support of the National Humanities Alliance (a list of members attached) for the position taken by the administration and yourself for a two-year, no substantive change reauthorization. While we have issues of concern about the National Endowment for the Humanities, we vigorously agree that these are matters to be taken up after the leadership positions in the endowments are in place and have had time to develop policy objectives and so forth.

We have one technical change to propose for the present reauthorization cycle -- restoration of a section of the legislation delineating procedures for employing peer review panels at NEH which was inadvertently deleted during the 1990 reauthorization process. I attach page 22 of the 1986 compilation of the law with the sentences under discussion indicated. Apparently, in the process of inserting into Section 10 more detailed and focused language on the peer process for the National Endowment for the Arts, the language at issue, which applied to both endowments and which was the only language describing use of peer panels at NEH, was dropped. Although I monitored the process closely, I can recall no discussion of discarding this part of the legislation -- and the record shows no intent on the part of members of Congress to lessen NEH's responsibilities in this area. Therefore my colleagues and I have concluded that it was an inadvertent deletion and that it would be only a technical change to reinsert the language into the legislation.

Congratulations on the speed with which you and your colleagues have taken up the reauthorization once the administration formally announced its very practical wishes on the matter.

Sincerely,



John H. Hammer  
Director

Please Note New Address/Phone/FAX - Effective 27 February 1993:

Copy: Hon Marge Roukema

National Humanities Alliance      Tel: 202/296-4994  
21 Dupont Circle, NW - Suite 804      FAX: 202/872-0884  
Washington, DC 20036

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persons in the Government service employed without compensation;

(6) to make advance, progress, and other payments without regard to the provisions of section 3648 of the Revised Statutes (31 U.S.C. 529);

(7) to rent office space in the District of Columbia; and

(8) to make other necessary expenditures.

In any case in which any money or other property is donated, bequeathed, or devised to the Foundation (A) without designation of the Endowment for the benefit of which such property is intended, and (B) without condition or restriction other than it be used for the purposes of the Foundation, such property shall be deemed to have been donated, bequeathed, or devised in equal shares to each Endowment and each Chairperson of an Endowment shall have authority to receive such property. In any case in which any money or other property is donated, bequeathed, or devised to the Foundation with a condition or restriction, such property shall be deemed to have been donated, bequeathed, or devised to that Endowment whose function it is to carry out the purpose or purposes described or referred to by the terms of such condition or restriction, and each Chairperson of an Endowment shall have authority to receive such property. For the purposes of the preceding sentence, if one or more of the purposes of such a condition or restriction is covered by the functions of both Endowments, or if some of the purposes of such a condition or restriction are covered by the functions of one Endowment and other of the purposes of such a condition or restriction are covered by the functions of the other Endowment, the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities shall determine an equitable manner for distribution between each of the Endowments of the property so donated, bequeathed, or devised. For the purpose of the income tax, gift tax, and estate tax laws of the United States, any money or other property donated, bequeathed, or devised to the Foundation or one of its Endowments and received by the Chairperson of an Endowment pursuant to authority derived under this subsection shall be deemed to have been donated, bequeathed, or devised to or for the use of the United States. In selecting panels of experts under clause (4) to review and make recommendations with respect to the approval of applications for financial assistance under this Act, each Chairperson shall appoint individuals who have exhibited expertise and leadership in the field under review, who broadly represent diverse characteristics in terms of aesthetic or humanistic perspective, and geographical factors, and who broadly represent cultural diversity. Each Chairperson shall assure that the membership of panels changes substantially from year to year, and that no more than 20 per centum of the annual appointments shall be for service beyond the limit of three consecutive years on a subpanel. In making appointments, each Chairperson shall give due regard to the need for experienced as well as new members on each panel. Panels of experts appointed to review or make recommendations with respect to the approval of applications or projects for funding by the National Endowment for the Arts shall, when reviewing such applications and projects, recommend for funding only applications and projects that in the context in which they are presented, in the experts' view, foster excellence, are reflective of exceptional talent, and have significant lit-

From: Compilation of the NFAHA 1965 as amended through 12/31/86

# The **NHA** National Humanities Alliance

## ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL HUMANITIES ALLIANCE

American Academy of Religion  
 American Anthropological Association  
 American Association of Museums  
 American Association for State and Local History  
 American Council of Learned Societies  
 American Folklore Society  
 American Historical Association  
 American Musicological Society  
 American Philological Association  
 American Philosophical Association  
 American Political Science Association  
 American Society for Aesthetics  
 American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies  
 American Society for Legal History  
 American Sociological Association  
 American Studies Association  
 Association for Asian Studies  
 Association for Jewish Studies  
 Association of American Colleges  
 Association of American Geographers  
 Association of Research Libraries  
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Shelby Cullon Davis Center for Historical Studies  
 Princeton University  
 Federation of State Humanities Councils  
 The George Washington University  
 History of Science Society  
 Independent Research Libraries Association  
 Linguistic Society of America  
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 National Council of Teachers of English  
 National Humanities Center  
 Organization of American Historians  
 Phi Beta Kappa Society  
 Renaissance Society of America  
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 Society for the History of Technology  
 Society of Biblical Literature  
 Special Libraries Association  
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 Teachers for a Democratic Culture

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL HUMANITIES ALLIANCE

African Studies Association  
 American Dialect Society  
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 College English Association  
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 Change, University of Virginia  
 Community College Humanities Association  
 The Council of the Humanities, Princeton  
 University  
 The Hastings Center  
 Institute for Advanced Study  
 Institute for the Humanities, University  
 of Michigan  
 Institute for the Medical Humanities, University  
 of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston

Institute of Early American History and Culture,  
 College of William and Mary  
 International Research and Exchanges Board  
 Midwest Modern Language Association  
 Northeast Document Conservation Center  
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 Popular Culture Association  
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 South Atlantic Modern Language Association  
 South Central Modern Language Association  
 Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities  
 University of California, Berkeley  
 University of California Humanities Research  
 Institute, University of California, Irvine  
 Virginia Center for the Humanities

February 1993

### New Address/Telephone/FAX - Effective 2/27/93

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|------------------------------|--------------|
| National Humanities Alliance | Telephone:   |
| 21 Dupont Circle, NW         | 202/296-4991 |
| Suite 604                    | FAX:         |
| Washington, DC 20036         | 202/472-0884 |