

## DEFINITIONS

SEC. 7. For the purposes of this Act—

(1) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare; and

(2) The term "State" means a State, the District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico.

Mr. THOMPSON. The first witness this morning is Mrs. Jouett Shouse, Chairman of the President's Music Committee of the "People-to-People" program, which is sponsored by the U.S. Information Agency.

Mrs. Shouse also is a trustee of the National Cultural Center, and vice president of the National Symphony Orchestra.

Mrs. Shouse, do you have a prepared statement?

**STATEMENT OF MRS. JOUETT SHOUSE, CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT'S MUSIC COMMITTEE, "PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE" PROGRAM, U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY, TRUSTEE, NATIONAL CULTURAL CENTER**

Mrs. SHOUSE. No, Mr. Chairman, I do not.

Mr. THOMPSON. You may proceed as you wish. We are delighted to have you with us this morning.

Mrs. SHOUSE. Thank you very much. I am very glad to be here because I think that this bill, 4172, is definitely a step in the right direction. We all know that we need a basic Government policy for encouraging the arts because none exists now. It is a long time overdue for the Federal Government to develop such a policy, and I am heartily in favor of it; but I also see the few dangers and hope that they can be overcome, the danger of such an advisory commission being lost in such a big organization as the HEW.

I think I am interpreting your thought that this bill is just a step in the right direction and that you hope that it will develop into a Cabinet post, which is what many of us are looking forward to having, but that cannot be accomplished immediately and this will give an opportunity for a complete survey of the performing arts in our country. This can be accomplished and the status can be given importance if the right people are chosen to direct the work.

I am hoping that the bill will pass and that this will be accomplished because it is so very much needed.

Such a Council, for example, could work very closely with the National Cultural Center and develop that program so it is most representative, which is what the trustees hope.

Incidentally, I am not speaking for any of the groups that I am identified with.

Two points which I would like to mention are that I am vice president of the National Symphony Orchestra and also on the board of the American Symphony Orchestra League. But I have discussed this many times with my associates in all four of these groups and they are looking forward to the time when they can have such an Advisory Council active in Washington because of the great need.

I think we have to have such a survey made by the right body because there are many conclusions that our country is waiting for. One of those conclusions is contained in the bill 4174 which calls for Government aid to our various music and performing art organizations.