

rank of creative and performing ability. Not only do we not need to apologize for their quality: they have given impetus to many fresh directions in which the arts all over the world are moving today. But, though we may boast of topflight performers and creative artists, we are still confronted by the fact that cultural projects constantly run into economic difficulties which threaten their lives or make it impossible for them to reach fruition. Gifted students often do not have local artistic horizons which are sufficiently rich in opportunity for advanced training and performance. Compare what we spend nationally on scientific programs with what we spend nationally on the arts. Compare our concern with seeing to it that scientists are trained with the haphazard way in which we force artists to scramble for their training, and indeed for their careers. Compare the support we give to ongoing scientific projects to the always shaky future of artistic projects."

This legislation would authorize the yearly allotment of not more than \$100,000 to any State having a suitable art agency and proposing specific projects in any field of art for which the State will provide not less than 50 percent of the required funds. Such assistance would be limited to nonprofit undertakings which could include: inventory of existing programs, survey of need for additional facilities or projects, assist in construction of public and other nonprofit centers for performance, teaching, or exhibition, protection of historic sites, etc., training leadership, and conducting research and demonstrations in the various art fields. The Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare will determine whether projects proposed carry out one or more purposes of this act and the allotment within the limits of available appropriations. This plan would stimulate State and local initiative and participation in development of the arts. It would also double (at least) whatever is made available by the Federal Government to encourage the arts and public enjoyment of them in any State. This plan would not grant subsidies to individual artists except insofar as they might be employed or commissioned in relation to a State project or program. It would establish a coherent and continuing outlook and policy toward the arts while leaving to the States the initiative as to what specific projects and programs would be jointly assisted. The amount of Federal money involved is infinitesimal in relation to the stimulus this assistance would give to the arts throughout our country.

Congressman Emanuel Celler (Democrat, New York) introduced a similar proposal in the 86th Congress 2 years ago. The NCAG felt it was premature at that time but expressed in our report the hope that it would be resubmitted. By now this system seems timely and perhaps the best way to accomplish the most for the arts at least expense to the Federal Government. There is one objection that will almost certainly be raised: that this legislation would grant too much power to the Secretary of HEW. The NCAG, therefore, intends to suggest an amendment to the effect that the Secretary, before reaching decisions insofar as these concern projects or programs or policies for the development of the arts in any State with the exception of financial matters, shall request the advice of the Federal Advisory Council on the Arts and ask it to establish whatever special committees may be necessary for this purpose.

We consider this legislation which includes all the arts second only to the Federal Advisory Council on the Arts in importance (see section on "State Aid to the Arts" below). It is essential that both Senators and Congressmen should be sent evidence of vigorous support for it. S. 785 has been referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, Senator Lister Hill, chairman. Communications should also be addressed to Senator Wayne Morse, chairman of its Subcommittee on Education. If they are typed, copies should be mailed to your own Senators.

Five identical bills have been introduced in the House: H.R. 4174 by Representative Thompson (Democrat, New Jersey), H.R. 1942 by Representative Kearns (Republican, Pennsylvania), H.R. 2227 by Representative Chelf (Democrat, Kentucky), H.R. 2275 by Representative Powell (Democrat, New York), and H.R. 3509 by Representative Celler (Democrat, New York). In priority Congressman Celler deserves to be the major sponsor (although Thompson had a similar bill in the 84th Cong.). Both Representatives Powell and Thompson are in the best position to forward this important legislation, and Representative Kearns is minority leader of the Committee on Education and Labor to which these bills are referred. Communications should be sent to Representative Frank Thompson, Jr., Chairman, Subcommittee on Cultural Activities, as well as to your own Congressman.