

in the performing arts. When so many other nations officially recognize and support the performing arts as part of their national cultural heritage, it seems to me unfortunate that the United States has been so slow in coming to a similar recognition.

The United States is almost the only nation in the world today which does not support the fine arts as a national policy.

Every nation and people aids those things which it honors, and certainly it is time that we here in our country gave some concrete evidence that we believed in the importance of those activities which make our civilization endure and flourish.

It is ironic that many of the countries around the world which have been assisted in their economic recovery by the \$80 billion which we have contributed through the mutual security program and the Marshall plan have been enabled thereby to aid the fine arts.

I include as part of my remarks a letter I have received from Mrs. Thomas D. Winstead, chairman, Fine Arts Department, Kentucky Federation of Womens Clubs. I include some items bearing on my bill to make the National Cultural Center Act permanent.

(The matters referred to follow:)

RINEYVILLE, KY., January 13, 1961.

HON. FRANK CHELF,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHELF: I was most interested to read about the bill you recently introduced in Congress which would enable each State to receive up to \$100,000 of Federal funds for supporting cultural activities.

This is a wonderful, worthwhile action you have undertaken and this department wishes to commend you highly for such a far-reaching project. It is all too true that in a nation abounding in all of the necessities and a good many of the luxuries of the good life, we are sadly lacking in resources for the advancement of sustained cultural programs. Would that we had more Congressmen with the insight and courage to do something about it.

I am sure I speak for all of the 15,000 members of the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs when I say we are back of this all the way and most willing to do anything we can to assure the passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

Mrs. T. D. WINSTEAD,
Chairman, Fine Arts Department, Kentucky Federation of Womens Clubs.

[H.R. 5617, 87th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To amend the National Cultural Center Act so as to make it permanent and to provide for a living memorial to past Presidents of the United States, including Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Theodore Roosevelt

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 3 of the National Cultural Center Act (72 Stat. 1699) is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 3. The Board shall provide, by construction, alteration, or otherwise, for the establishment, on behalf of the Smithsonian Institution, of a National Center of the Performing Arts which shall be designated as such and dedicated as a living memorial to past Presidents of the United States including Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Theodore Roosevelt. Such center shall be located on a site or sites in the District of Columbia selected by the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (hereafter in this section referred to as the 'Regents') and shall consist of such auditoriums, libraries, and art galleries as will encourage and assist in advancing and in raising the standards of the performing arts for children and adults, in the professional, educational, amateur, and recreational fields, in the Nation's Capital as well as throughout the Nation. Such facilities as may be suitable, or which can be made suitable, and which are owned by the Federal Government, or which are in private ownership and which may be offered the Regents or the Board on reasonable terms,