

and cultural endeavor and appreciation." Since then bills to implement this proposal have been introduced in each Congress on a bipartisan basis.

The Council which is proposed would be established in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and would be composed of 21 outstanding private citizens widely recognized for their knowledge or experience or interest in one or more arts such as music, drama, dance, literature, et cetera. Members would be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate for 6-year terms.

The function of the Council would be to act as a clearing house for ideas and recommendations and to make studies and proposals on methods to encourage private initiative in the arts and promote cooperation with local, State, and Federal departments or agencies to foster artistic and cultural endeavors. The creation of such a council would involve no expenditures save those of a modest per diem allowance for the Council Members and staff expenses. The Council would administer no subsidies. It would give away no funds, but it would provide a significant national impetus to the systematic exchange of views on artistic matters.

There is a profound national interest in the encouragement and development of both the practice and appreciation of the arts by our citizens. Not only does art enrich the lives of individual citizens, but our national life and the impact of our country abroad is enhanced by cultural development. In a variety of ways, activities of the Federal Government have an effect upon artistic and cultural development. However, there is today no means for coordinating these activities. The enactment of this proposal to establish a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts would therefore meet a long-recognized need.

I hope the Select Subcommittee on Education will act favorably on this legislation and that early action will follow in the House and Senate.

Mr. THOMPSON. Our next witness is the Honorable John V. Lindsay, a Congressman from the State of New York.

STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN V. LINDSAY, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Mr. LINDSAY. Mr. Chairman, I am grateful to the subcommittee for allowing me this opportunity to speak on arts legislation in general and to register my wholehearted support of the bills to provide for the establishment of a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts now before you for consideration. I have myself introduced H.R. 5408 to establish such a Council.

It is my privilege to represent the district in New York City which includes what is undoubtedly America's premier art center. The bounds of my congressional district include the Metropolitan Opera, the Broadway theaters, the Metropolitan Museum, the Museum of Modern Art, Frank Lloyd Wright's Guggenheim Museum, the New York City Ballet, most of Greenwich Village, Rockefeller Center, and Madison Avenue with their television and radio broadcasting systems.

The growth and development of the fine arts in the United States are certainly in the national interest. Beyond the preservation of our national freedom and of our constitutional rights, what greater con-