

tion for a more intensive Federal program in support of the arts? It is most courteous of your to give me your attention and I appreciate it, not only on my own account but on behalf of the millions of American citizens who share my concern and for whom, in small measure, I shall try to speak.

I have already given earnest of my sincerity in this important matter by introducing appropriate legislation for Federal stimulation and responsibility in our cultural life.

On February 19 I introduced H.R. 4427—as companion legislation with U.S. Senator Javits, establishing a \$10-million-a-year U.S. Arts Foundation, to provide financial assistance to nonprofit groups engaged in the performing arts, including theatrical, musical, opera, dance, ballet, and choral recitals. I felt and still feel that if our Government can subsidize American artistic performances behind the Iron Curtain, it can also afford to subsidize first-rate American artistic performances in the many American communities which have never seen a first-class play or heard a first-class orchestra. In short, I think that culture—like charity—begins at home.

On April 19, I also introduced H.R. 6484, to establish a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. This Council would be composed of 21 outstanding private citizens widely recognized for their knowledge of, or experience and interest in, one or more of such arts as music, drama, dance, literature, architecture, painting and sculpture, as well as photography, graphic and craft arts, motion pictures, radio, and television. The members would be named by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate, and the President would designate one member of the Council to serve as its Chairman. Members would serve for 6 years and shall receive compensation not exceeding \$50 per diem, as well as appropriate travel and subsistence.

This second measure is not confined to the performing arts but extends to the creative arts as well. Such a bill provides long overdue and basic recognition of the role of the arts as a vital factor in our national life, and as a medium for correlating and drawing together in a continuing relationship the numerous separate efforts throughout the Nation in the development of the arts. The Council would help to promote creative activity and stimulate the creative forces of a free society. It would act as a potent weapon in our struggle against atheistic, materialistic communism. Through studies and recommendations, such a Council would propose 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.

I would not pretend that these two bills cover the entire range of measures required to place a firm Federal policy behind the burgeoning growth of our Nation's vigorous cultural activity. Other bills have been introduced and are before your committee. They seek the same general objectives that I do and so I propose to use the time which you have graciously accorded to me to speak on the general purport of this proposed legislation.

Ours is almost the only great nation which has no national policy for the encouragement of the creative and performing arts. Many governments have long established Ministries of Fine Arts and in-