

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 16, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

As you negotiate a final appropriations package for fiscal year (FY) 2023, we respectfully urge you to include the highest possible funding amount for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to provide adequate support for advanced research, informed teaching in schools and colleges, and the preservation of cultural collections across the nation.

We appreciate that the House Committee-passed Appropriations bill included a robust \$207 million for the NEH in the FY23 bill, a 11.5 percent increase over the NEH's appropriated funds in FY22. The \$207 million is consistent with the support needed for projects that increase engagement with underserved communities throughout the country.

The humanities play a critical role in our nation as strong cultural institutions create healthy communities and thriving regional economies. The only federal agency dedicated to funding the humanities, the NEH delivers competitive grants to institutions that enhance the public's knowledge of fields such as literature, language, history, philosophy, political science, and other social sciences. This work promotes cultural understanding, awareness, and connection across the nation in 56 jurisdictions through their Federal/State Partnership Office which directly supports state and jurisdictional humanities councils, with added incentives in FY23 to reach new underserved communities.

Included in the FY23 package is support for "A More Perfect Union," a special initiative to assemble the NEH's comprehensive catalog of American history in time for the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

In order to successfully implement the NEH's vision for FY23, we urge you to hold firm on the \$207 million allocated by the House as you negotiate final passage. Currently, the Senate Appropriations Committee's draft bill calls for \$195 million in proposed funding, less than the amount approved by the House and requested by President Biden's Administration.

Although the Senate version represents a \$15 million increase from FY22, the gap in funding will significantly hinder the NEH's ability to process grant requests as we exit the pandemic. The highest possible funding will allow the NEH to reach underserved audiences, address challenges with rising costs, and respond to the new requests.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We appreciate your leadership on this issue and look forward to working with you to preserve our treasured cultural institutions.

Sincerely,



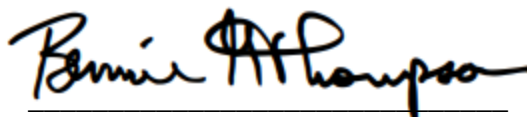
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



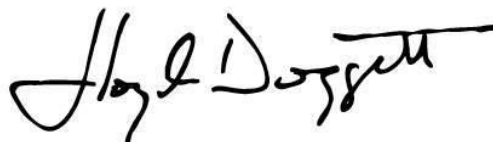
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Bennie Thompson
Member of Congress



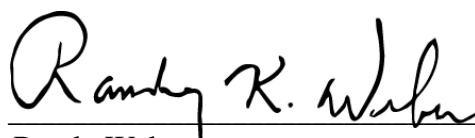
Bill Pascrell, Jr
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Randy Weber
Member of Congress



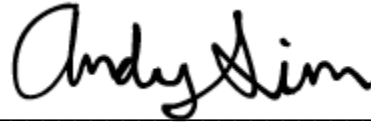
Eleanor Holmes Norton
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