## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

## April 19, 2013

The Honorable Michael K. Simpson Chairman House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment & Related Agencies B-308 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Jim Moran
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment & Related Agencies
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Moran:

We are writing to thank the Subcommittee for its past support of funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and to respectfully request your continued support for NEH in fiscal year (FY) 2014.

As you know, NEH is the primary source of federal support for humanities research and related activities in the U.S. The Endowment provides competitive grant funding for research and scholarship in history, literature, foreign languages, and other fields that provide individuals with critical ethical, cultural, and historical perspective. Additionally, NEH funding allocated through state humanities councils strengthens the cultural infrastructure of local communities in every state and territory across the nation.

Investment in the humanities advances vital U.S. interests by fostering a globally competitive workforce, strengthening civic engagement, preserving our cultural heritage, and protecting our national security. As our world becomes increasingly more interconnected, building a solid foundation in the humanities becomes even more vital to U.S. interests. That's why the majority of our CIA analysts, State Department officials and staff members and diplomats at embassies across the globe are graduates of the humanities — as are leaders ranging from Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Martin Dempsey to Nobel Laureate and National Cancer Center Director Harold Varmus to Steve Jobs!

NEH has been an outstanding steward of the relatively small amount of federal support it receives annually. Between 1965 and 2009, NEH successfully leveraged more than \$2 billion in non-federal support, including private and institutional contributions. However, current demand for humanities project support far exceeds funding availability and non-federal support for the humanities has declined sharply in recent years, in part due to the current economic downturn. Each year, as billions of dollars are rightfully invested in research and education in science and technology, the relative federal investment in the humanities falls further behind.

We are aware of the many difficult choices your Subcommittee faces in crafting its FY 2014 bill, but we believe that strong federal support for the humanities is needed now more than ever to preserve America's place as a world leader in education and innovation for all fields of learning and help provide our nation's citizenry and workforce with the foundation necessary to tackle the challenges of today's globalized world. We urge your continued support for NEH and appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sin	ncerely,
David Price David Price	Thomas E. Petri Member of Congress
Member of Congress  Lamps R. Langevin  Member of Congress	Jarred Polis Member of Congress
Sander Levin Member of Congress	Suranne Bonamici Wiember of Congress
Vette D. Clarke Member of Congress	Chaka Fattah Member of Congress
Ed Blum	Lois) Capps

Earl Blumenauer Member of Congress

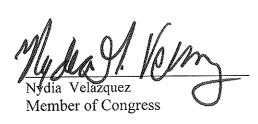
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