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SUBCHAPTER I—NATIONAL FOUNDATION
ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

§ 951. Declaration of findings and purposes

The Congress finds and declares the following:

(1) The arts and the humanities belong to all the people of the United States.

(2) The encouragement and support of national progress and scholarship in the humanities and the arts, while primarily a matter for private and local initiative, are also appropriate matters of concern to the Federal Government.

(3) An advanced civilization must not limit its efforts to science and technology alone, but must give full value and support to the other great branches of scholarly and cultural activity in order to achieve a better understanding of the past, a better analysis of the present, and a better view of the future.

(4) Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens. It must therefore foster and support a form of education, and access to the arts and the humanities, designed to make people of all backgrounds and wherever located masters of their technology and not its unthinking servants.

(5) It is necessary and appropriate for the Federal Government to complement, assist, and add to programs for the advancement of the humanities and the arts by local, State, regional, and private agencies and their organizations. In doing so, the Government must be sensitive to the nature of public sponsorship. Public funding of the arts and humanities is subject to the conditions that traditionally govern the use of public money. Such funding should contribute to public support and confidence in the use of taxpayer funds. Public funds provided by the Federal Government must ultimately serve public purposes the Congress defines.

(6) The arts and the humanities reflect the high place accorded by the American people to the nation's rich cultural heritage and to the fostering of mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.

(7) The practice of art and the study of the humanities require constant dedication and devotion. While no government can call a

great artist or scholar into existence, it is necessary and appropriate for the Federal Government to help create and sustain not only a climate encouraging freedom of thought, imagination, and inquiry but also the material conditions facilitating the release of this creative talent.

(8) The world leadership which has come to the United States cannot rest solely upon superior power, wealth, and technology, but must be solidly founded upon worldwide respect and admiration for the Nation's high qualities as a leader in the realm of ideas and of the spirit.

(9) Americans should receive in school, background and preparation in the arts and humanities to enable them to recognize and appreciate the aesthetic dimensions of our lives, the diversity of excellence that comprises our cultural heritage, and artistic and scholarly expression.

(10) It is vital to a democracy to honor and preserve its multicultural artistic heritage as well as support new ideas, and therefore it is essential to provide financial assistance to its artists and the organizations that support their work.

(11) To fulfill its educational mission, achieve an orderly continuation of free society, and provide models of excellence to the American people, the Federal Government must transmit the achievement and values of civilization from the past via the present to the future, and make widely available the greatest achievements of art.

(12) In order to implement these findings and purposes, it is desirable to establish a National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities.

(Pub. L. 89-209, § 2, Sept. 29, 1965, 79 Stat. 845; Pub. L. 91-346, § 2, July 20, 1970, 84 Stat. 443; Pub. L. 93-133, § 2(a)(1), Oct. 19, 1973, 87 Stat. 462; renumbered title I, § 2, and amended Pub. L. 98-306, §§ 2, 3, May 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 223; renumbered § 2 and amended Pub. L. 99-194, title I, §§ 101(1), 102, Dec. 20, 1985, 99 Stat. 1332; Pub. L. 101-512, title III, § 318 [title I, § 101], Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1960, 1961.)

AMENDMENTS

1990—Pub. L. 101-512 amended section generally, substituting provisions relating to declaration of findings and purposes consisting of pars. (1) to (12) for provisions relating to declaration of purpose consisting of cls. (1) to (9).

1985—Cl. (2). Pub. L. 99-194, § 102(1), struck out "man's" before "scholarly and cultural activity".

Cl. (3). Pub. L. 99-194, § 102(2), inserted ", and access to the arts and the humanities," after "form of education" and substituted "people of all backgrounds and wherever located" for "men".

Cls. (8), (9). Pub. L. 99-194, § 102(3)-(5), added cl. (8) and redesignated former cl. (8) as (9).

1984—Cls. (6) to (8). Pub. L. 98-306, § 3, added cl. (6) and redesignated former cls. (6) and (7) as (7) and (8), respectively.

1973—Cl. (7). Pub. L. 93-133 struck out provisions relating to strengthening the responsibilities of the Office of Education with respect to education in the arts and the humanities.

1970—Cl. (2). Pub. L. 91-346 inserted "in order to achieve a better understanding of the past, a better analysis of the present, and a better view of the future".

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 101-512, title III, §318 [title IV, §403], Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1960, 1977, provided that:

“(a) GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in subsection (b), this Act [probably means section, see Short Title of 1990 Amendment note below] and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on October 1, 1990.

“(b) SPECIAL EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by sections 110, 204, and 301 [amending sections 960, 967, and 974 of this title] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 5, 1990] or October 1, 1990, whichever is earlier.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1973 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 93-133, §2(b), Oct. 19, 1973, 87 Stat. 465, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section and sections 952 and 954 to 960 of this title and repealing sections 962 and 963 of this title] shall be effective on and after July 1, 1973.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 101-512, title III, §318, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1960, provided that: “This section [enacting sections 954a and 969 of this title, amending this section, sections 952, 954, 955, 956, 958, 959, 960, 963, 964, 965, 967, and 974 of this title, and section 5315 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, and enacting notes under this section and section 954 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Arts, Humanities, and Museums Amendments of 1990’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1985 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 99-194, §1, Dec. 20, 1985, 99 Stat. 1332, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 177 of title 2, The Congress, amending this section and sections 952 to 955, 956, 957, 958 to 960, 963, 964, 967, 971, 972, and 974 of this title, enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 954 and 972 of this title, and amending provisions set out as a note under this section] may be cited as the ‘Arts, Humanities, and Museums Amendments of 1985’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 98-306, §1, May 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 223, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 955b of this title and section 310 of Title 25, Indians, amending this section and sections 952 to 955, 956, 957, 958 to 960, 962, 963, 964, and 967 of this title, amending provisions set out as a note under this section and repealing provisions set out as notes under sections 960 and 967 of this title] may be cited as the ‘National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act Amendments of 1983’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 96-496, §1, Dec. 4, 1980, 94 Stat. 2583, provided that: “This Act [amending sections 952, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958 to 960, 962, 963, 964, 965, 967, 974, and 3473 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Arts and Humanities Act of 1980’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 94-462, §1, Oct. 8, 1976, 90 Stat. 1971, provided: “That this Act [enacting sections 961 to 968 of this title, amending sections 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 960, and 1867 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 956, 960, and 961 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Arts, Humanities, and Cultural Affairs Act of 1976’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1973 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 93-133, §1, Oct. 19, 1973, 87 Stat. 461, provided: “That this Act [amending this section and sections 351a, 952, 954, 955, 956, 957, and 958 to 960 of this title, repealing sections 962 and 963 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and section 351a of this title] may be cited as the ‘National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Amendments of 1973’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1970 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 91-346, §1, July 20, 1970, 84 Stat. 443, provided: “That this Act [amending this section and sections 952, 954, 955, 956, 957, and 958 to 960 of this title, repealing sections 781 to 788 and 790 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under section 955 of this title and section 781 of this title] may be cited as ‘The National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Amendments of 1970’.”

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 89-209, §1, Sept. 29, 1965, 79 Stat. 845, as renumbered title I, §1, and amended by Pub. L. 98-306, §2, May 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 223; renumbered §1 and amended by Pub. L. 99-194, title I, §101, Dec. 20, 1985, 99 Stat. 1332, provided that: “This Act [enacting this subchapter, amending sections 784 to 786 of this title, repealing section 789 of this title, and enacting provisions formerly set out as a note under section 785 of this title] may be cited as the ‘National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965’.”

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING PURCHASE OF AMERICAN-MADE EQUIPMENT AND PRODUCTS

Pub. L. 101-512, title III, §318 [title IV, §§401, 402], Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1960, 1977, provided that:

“SEC. 401. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

“It is the sense of the Congress that a recipient (including a nation, individual, group, or organization) of any form of subsidy, aid, or other Federal assistance under the Acts amended by this Act [probably means this section, see Short Title of 1990 Amendment note above] should, in expending that assistance, purchase American-made equipment and products.

“SEC. 402. NOTICE.

“Any entity that provides a form of subsidy, aid, or other Federal assistance under the Acts amended by this Act shall provide to each recipient of such form of subsidy, aid, or other Federal assistance a notice describing the sense of the Congress stated under section 401.”

1979 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON THE ARTS

Pub. L. 95-272, title I, §§101-109, May 3, 1978, 92 Stat. 222-224, called for a White House Conference on the Arts to be held no later than Dec. 31, 1979, to help develop a climate in which the arts can flourish and to formulate recommendations relating to the appropriate growth of the arts in all parts of the Nation, established a National Conference Planning Council on the Arts to provide guidance and planning for the Conference, directed the Council to submit a report of the Conference to the President and to the Congress no later than 180 days following the date on which the Conference was called, and provided the Council cease to exist 180 days, unless extended by the President, but in no event to exceed one year, after submission of the report.

1979 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON THE HUMANITIES

Pub. L. 95-272, title II, §§201-209, May 3, 1978, 92 Stat. 224-226, called for a White House Conference on the Humanities to be held no later than Dec. 31, 1979, to help develop a climate in which the humanities can flourish and to formulate recommendations relating to the appropriate growth of the humanities in all parts of the Nation, established a National Planning Council on the Humanities to provide guidance and planning for the Conference, directed the Council to submit a report of the Conference to the President and to the Congress no later than 180 days following the date on which the Conference was called, and provided the Council cease to exist 180 days, unless extended by the President, but in no event to exceed one year, after submission of the report.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 12275

Ex. Ord. No. 12275, Jan. 16, 1981, 46 F.R. 5857, which established the Design Liaison Council and provided for

its membership, functions, etc., was revoked by Ex. Ord. No. 12379, §10, Aug. 17, 1982, 47 F.R. 36099, set out as a note under section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 952. Definitions

As used in this subchapter—

(a) The term “humanities” includes, but is not limited to, the study and interpretation of the following: language, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism, and theory of the arts; those aspects of the social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life.

(b) The term “the arts” includes, but is not limited to, music (instrumental and vocal), dance, drama, folk art, creative writing, architecture and allied fields, painting, sculpture, photography, graphic and craft arts, industrial design, costume and fashion design, motion pictures, television, radio, film, video, tape and sound recording, the arts related to the presentation, performance, execution, and exhibition of such major art forms, all those traditional arts practiced by the diverse peoples of this country,¹ and the study and application of the arts to the human environment.

(c) The term “production” means plays (with or without music), ballet, dance and choral performances, concerts, recitals, operas, exhibitions, readings, motion pictures, television, radio, film, video, and tape and sound recordings, and any other activities involving the execution or rendition of the arts and meeting such standards as may be approved by the National Endowment for the Arts established by section 954 of this title.

(d) The term “project” means programs organized to carry out the purposes of this subchapter, including programs to foster American artistic creativity, to commission works of art, to create opportunities for individuals to develop artistic talents when carried on as a part of a program otherwise included in this definition, and to develop and enhance the widest public knowledge and understanding of the arts, and includes, where appropriate, rental or purchase of facilities, purchase or rental of land, and acquisition of equipment. Such term also includes—

(1) the renovation of facilities if (A) the amount of the expenditure of Federal funds for such purpose in the case of any project does not exceed \$250,000, or (B) two-thirds of the members of the National Council on the Arts or the National Council on the Humanities, as the case may be (who are present and voting) approve of the grant or contract involving an expenditure for such purpose; and

(2) for purposes of sections 954(p), 956(c)(10), and 956(h) of this title only, the construction

of facilities if (A) such construction is for demonstration purposes or under unusual circumstances where there is no other manner in which to accomplish an artistic or humanistic purpose, and (B) two-thirds of the members of the National Council on the Arts and the National Council on the Humanities, as the case may be, (who are present and voting) approve of the grant or contract involving an expenditure for such purpose.

(e) The term “group” includes any State or other public agency, and any nonprofit society, institution, organization, association, museum, or establishment in the United States, whether or not incorporated.

(f) The term “workshop” means an activity the primary purpose of which is to encourage the artistic development or enjoyment of amateur, student, or other nonprofessional participants, or to promote scholarship and teaching among the participants.

(g) The term “State” includes, in addition to the several States of the Union, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands.

(h) The term “local arts agency” means a community organization, or an agency of local government, that primarily provides financial support, services, or other programs for a variety of artists and arts organizations, for the benefit of the community as a whole.

(i) The term “developing arts organization” means a local arts organization of high artistic promise which—

(1) serves as an important source of local arts programming in a community; and

(2) has the potential to develop artistically and institutionally to broaden public access to the arts in rural and innercity areas and other areas that are underserved artistically.

(j) The term “determined to be obscene” means determined, in a final judgment of a court of record and of competent jurisdiction in the United States, to be obscene.

(k) The term “final judgment” means a judgment that is either—

(1) not reviewed by any other court that has authority to review such judgment; or

(2) is not reviewable by any other court.

(l) The term “obscene” means with respect to a project, production, workshop, or program that—

(1) the average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find that such project, production, workshop, or program, when taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest;

(2) such project, production, workshop, or program depicts or describes sexual conduct in a patently offensive way; and

(3) such project, production, workshop, or program, when taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.

(Pub. L. 89-209, §3, Sept. 29, 1965, 79 Stat. 845; Pub. L. 90-348, §§1, 7, June 18, 1968, 82 Stat. 184, 187; Pub. L. 91-346, §3, July 20, 1970, 84 Stat. 443; Pub. L. 93-133, §2(a)(2), Oct. 19, 1973, 87 Stat. 462; Pub. L. 96-496, title I, §101, Dec. 4, 1980, 94 Stat.

¹ So in original. The period probably should be a comma.