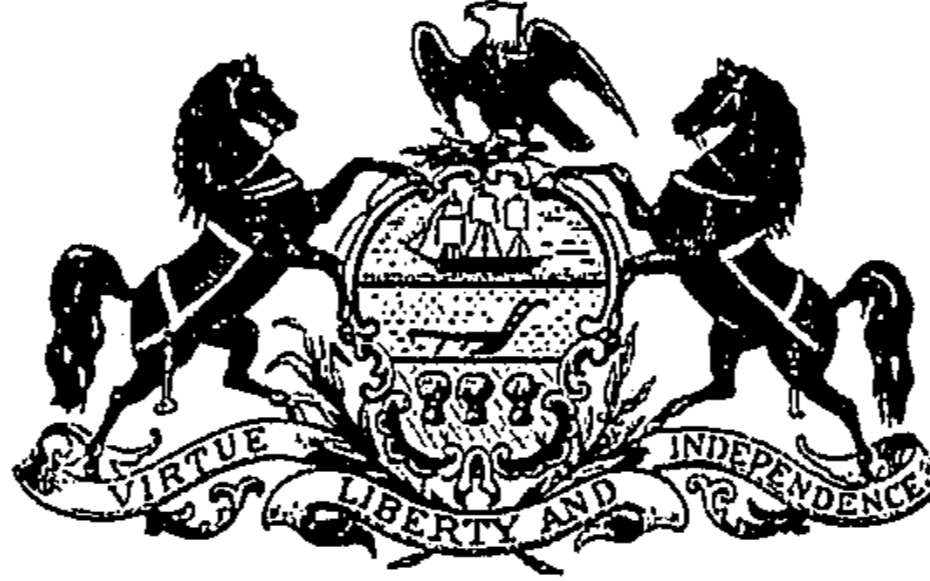


CRAIG A. DALLY, MEMBER
211 RYAN OFFICE BUILDING
PO BOX 202138
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2138
PHONE: (717) 783-8573
E-mail: cdally@pahousegop.com
Website: www.craigdally.com

DISTRICT OFFICES:
354 W. MOORESTOWN ROAD
NAZARETH, PA 18064
PHONE: (610) 746-2100

5330 NOR-BATH BLVD
NORTHAMPTON, PA 18067
PHONE: (610) 502-1567



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
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December 5, 2007

Governor Edward G. Rendell
Room 225, Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA

Dear Governor Rendell:

I am writing to you today to encourage you to consider providing an increase of \$2 million each year for the next three years, in the budget of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. From the Allentown Symphony to the Allentown Art Museum to ArtsQuest, the Bethlehem Bach Choir and the State Theatre in Easton, the residents of the Lehigh Valley have greatly benefited from arts funding through the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

It is my understating that as many two-thirds of the organizations supported by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts experienced reduced funding in the 2007-2008 budget year because of the increasing number of arts organizations receiving support

It is also my understating that Pennsylvania lags behind its neighboring state in terms of per capita support for the arts. Clearly the investments made by the state in the arts are bearing fruit for our communities. The new art park in Allentown celebrates the anchor arts organizations in the Lehigh Valley's largest city. The State Theatre in Easton has provided a significant anchor for Easton's downtown and ArtsQuest in Bethlehem has provided high quality events plus the Banana Factory to support with the revitalization of that city.

On behalf of the residents of the Lehigh Valley request that you increase the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts budget by \$2 million each year for the next three years.

Sincerely,

CRAIG A. DALLY
State Representative
138th Legislative District

CAD/gkp