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APPOINTMENTS

DEPUTY WHIP

December 18, 2007

Edward G. Rendell
Governor of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
House Box 202020
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020

Dear Governor Rendell:

Please accept this correspondence as an expression of my strong support for increasing funding for the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. The PCA currently finances over 1,200 arts and culture non-profit organizations and projects throughout the Commonwealth and 68 of them are located within the Lehigh Valley.

The PCA's financing has created tremendous benefits to the economy in the Lehigh Valley. According to the Lehigh Valley Arts Council (LVAC), arts and culture organizations has brought in \$169.11 million annually in economic activity. In the Commonwealth it has also created 6,216 full-time jobs and has created \$17.95 million in local and state government revenue.

Increasing funding would greatly benefit the growth of these organizations throughout the state. Pennsylvania currently ranks 17th nationally in state arts agency legislative appropriations per capita, while most of the neighboring states rank in the top ten.

Thank you for your full consideration and support for the arts and cultural activities throughout Pennsylvania. Please feel free to contact me if there is anything I can do to assist you in the budget process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen D. Beyer".

KAREN D. BEYER
State Representative
131st Legislative District

KDB/bd