

RESOLUTION NO. 28-90

00229

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS, SUPPORTING REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES ACT OF 1965 AND CONTINUED FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS, NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES AND THE INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM SERVICE FOR FY-1991; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF.

WHEREAS, the arts enhance our quality of life by helping to define a nation's and a community's identity, values and heritage, contributing to cross-cultural communication and developing creative problem-solving skills; and

WHEREAS, public investment in the arts stimulates economic growth, attracts business and corporate investment to communities, promotes downtown and neighborhood revitalization, spurs tourism, enhances the image of our communities and nation, and encourages innovation and inspiration in society; and

WHEREAS, the National Endowment for the Arts' twenty-five year stellar history of promoting creativity and cultural vitality has enabled a flourishing of the arts to reach every state and community and made the arts available to every citizen of our nation; and

WHEREAS, in its twenty-five year history the National Endowment for the Arts has made over 85,000 grants and funded the presentation or creation of over 1,000,000 images of which only 25 projects have become controversial; and

WHEREAS, the restrictive language approved by Congress in 1990 would have the effect of promoting censorship and inhibiting creativity at the expense of quality within the arts community, and gives Congress the power to micro-manage the Endowment and define obscenity rather than the courts; and

WHEREAS, the Endowment's citizen-involved panel system, local matching requirements for grants and reviews by the Presidentially-appointed National Council on the Arts and its Chairman provide appropriate checks and balances in regard to federal funding for the arts; and

WHEREAS, President Bush supports reauthorization of the NEA without restrictive language and has submitted legislation to that effect in Congress; and

WHEREAS, President Lyndon B. Johnson, in sponsoring legislation to establish the NEA, proclaimed, "We fully recognize that no government can call artistic excellence into existence. It must flow from the quality of the society and the good fortune of the nation. Nor should any government seek to restrict the freedom of the artist to pursue his goals in his own way. Freedom is an essential condition for the artist, and in proportion, if freedom is diminished so is the prospect of artistic achievement,"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That the City Council of the City of Mesquite, Texas, does hereby support reauthorization of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 and continued funding for the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum Service for FY-1991 without restrictive language.


00230

Page 2


DULY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mesquite, Texas, on the 18th day of June, 1990.

  
George A. Vennor, Sr.  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Lynn Prugel  
City Secretary

APPROVED:

  
B.J. Smith  
City Attorney