

Act promptly!
Too many good advocacy
letters arrive after a vote
has been taken.



Use your organization's letter
head when communicating
your position on a bill.

March 21, 2006

Address correspondence to the author of the bill or committee chair with
copies to members of the committee hearing the bill and your local legislator.

The Honorable Rudy Bermudez
Chair, Assembly Budget Sub-Committee #4
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Position: **SUPPORT**

State your position.

Re: Budget Item # 8260 California Arts Council

Briefly describe your
organization and mission.

Dear Assemblyman Bermudez:

The California Arts Council (CAC) has a long history of making an indispensable contribution to our state's social and economic life by creating partnerships between schools and artists, giving organizational support to nonprofit arts organizations, bringing performers and artists to isolated rural regions and underserved urban areas and partnerships with other state agencies providing social services to Californians. Although the last four budget cycles have prevented the CAC from continuing many of its grants programs of the past, federal matching funds, foundation grants and revenue generated by the California Arts License Plate sales has made it possible for the agency to still be a valuable resource for over 10,000 nonprofit arts organizations who serve California.

The nonprofit arts community that the California Arts Council has nurtured over the years is a feeder to California's creative industry. According to the recent Americans for the Arts Creative Industries 2006 Report (using reliable data from Dun & Bradstreet and geo-economic analysis), California is home to 86,012 arts-related businesses that employ 484,657 people in January 2006. These are California businesses; these are California jobs.

Provide
information
and facts
supporting
your position.

"The Arts: A Competitive Advantage for California II" reported that the impact of the nonprofit arts sector includes \$2.7 billion in worker income, \$300 million in tax revenue, \$2.2 billion in spending throughout the state, and tourist spending is just under \$1 billion. **\$1.144 million in state spending is a small investment in a sector that brings so much to our great state.** Imagine the return on California's investment, if the state's general fund spent more than **3 cents per capita** on the Arts.

Closing
paragraph
should restate
your position.

The Arts are vital to the quality of life that we are so very proud of in California. With your support for state funding for the California Arts Council and its programs, the Arts can continue to be a significant contributor to California's economic recovery through tourism, jobs and education outreach. In the spirit of Americans for the Arts "Ask for More" campaign, if you and your colleagues find more dollars in the state budget at the end of the day, please send them to the California Arts Council.

Thank you for your commitment to a better California. If there are any questions, please feel free to call our legislative advocate, Ms. Kathryn Lynch at (916) 443-0202.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Cullen Caretto".

Lisa Cullen Caretto
California Arts Advocates
President

Send copies to the Governor, your
personal legislator and California Arts
Advocates so they can track support or
opposition from the arts field to assist
in additional advocacy efforts.

Cc: The Honorable Members of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4
Mr. Adam Dondro, Consultant, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4
Mr. Chris Ryan, Republican Consultant, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4
Ms. Kathryn A. Lynch, Legislative Advocate, California Arts Advocates
Mr. Richard Costigan, Legislative Secretary, Governor's Office

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