Excerpt from National Endowment for the Arts: Hearing of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, United States Senate, One Hundred Fourth Congress, First Session on Examining the Activities of the National Endowment for the Arts, January 26, 1995

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Opening Statement of Senator Kassebaum

The Chairman. The hearing will please come to order. Senator Kennedy is on his way, but there is general agreement that I will go ahead and give my opening statement. The committee has a new policy that we do not have opening statements from every member, but this morning, after Senator Kennedy and myself give our opening statements, I would like to call on Senator Jeffords, who chairs the subcommittee with responsibility for the further oversight hearings on the reauthorization of the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities and the Institute of Museum Services, as well as the ranking member, Senator Pell. Today marks the beginning of what I hope and feel confident will be a productive series of hearings on both the merits and the shortcomings of the National Endowment for the Arts. Controversial NEA grants have continued to make headlines and bring into question the endowments ability to manage Federal funds in a responsible manner. At the same time, projects assisted by the National Endowment for the Arts have flourished in our States and local communities and have brought art and culture to a wide variety of people. The NEAs authority expired in fiscal year 1993, and since then, Congress has dealt with concerns about its practices during debate on annual appropriation bills. While these debates provided a small degree of oversight, I have been interested in a more comprehensive dialogue on these issues. In the next few months, this committee will thoroughly review the NEHs mission and procedures and report a bill to extend its authority. The National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum Services will also be a major part of this discussion as Senator Jeffords subcommittee considers the reauthorization of all three agencies. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works. 

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