



March 27, 2008

The Honorable Betty Karnette  
Member of the California State Legislature  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Position: SUPPORT**

Location: Assembly Arts, Entertainment,  
Sports, Tourism & Internet Media  
Committee

**Re: AB 2728 (Karnette) California Arts Council: funding: sales and use tax revenues - as amended**

Dear Assembly Member Karnette:

California Arts Advocates (CAA) represents artists, arts organizations, and Californians who support the Arts. Its membership is a broad spectrum of budget sizes, arts disciplines, diverse cultures, audiences and regions. Its membership also includes non-profit arts organizations who serve communities with the help of California Arts Council (CAC) funding and programs.

On behalf of its members, CAA thanks you for introducing AB 2728 and supports its passage as amended. California is in its fifth year spending three cents per capita from the General Fund on the arts and it remains last in the nation for state spending. AB 2728 will provide badly needed funding for the CAC at a time when California is no longer in fiscal crisis and can afford to invest in arts programs for all Californians, not just for some.

- The non-profit arts community, large and small, that the California Arts Council has nurtured over the years is a feeder to California's very profitable creative industry that employs 426,222 as of January 2007. (Dun & Bradstreet data.)
- Non-profit arts organizations are a proven economic driver for California's economy, a \$5.4 billion industry that generates \$300 million in state and local taxes.
- Providing a designated funding stream for the CAC can help grow programs that help non-profit arts organizations and artists serve 37 million Californians and the millions of people who visit California every day.

The arts are vital to the quality of life that we are so very proud of in California. With your legislation supporting new funding for the California Arts Council and its programs when the General Fund has achieved ongoing structural balance, the arts can contribute significantly more to California's economy through tourism, jobs, social services and education outreach. AB 2728 proposes a sound investment for California.

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", written in a cursive style.

Lisa Cullen Caretto  
Executive Director

cc: Michael Pro시오, Chief Deputy Legislative Analyst, Governor's Office  
Dana Mitchell, Consultant, Assembly Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism and  
Internet Media Committee  
Donna Earnest, Consultant, Assembly Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet  
Media Committee  
Kathryn Lynch, Legislative Advocate, Lynch & Associates  
California Arts Advocates Board Members

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