



Senate Chamber State of Tennessee

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Dear Colleagues:

Over a decade ago the General Assembly's Arts Caucus was born. Since its inception, it has been my privilege to serve as Chairman, and I would like to invite to join us for an informal breakfast before session on February 2 to learn more about the Arts Caucus. The purpose of the Arts Caucus has always been simple: members of the Arts Caucus believe the arts make our communities stronger and more vibrant.

Our members believe the dedicated funding for the arts derived from the Specialty License Plate program is a choice we want to offer Tennesseans. Supporting and protecting the funding formula for Specialty License Plates (the 50%/40%10% funding formula) is our principal focus. Members of the Arts Caucus agree to support the funding formula for Specialty License Plates and recognize this funding -- the primary source for the Tennessee Arts Commission's (TAC) grant program -- is sacrosanct.

Our commitment to this formula has allowed the TAC to continue to make grants to communities all across the State. Last year a record number of grants, totaling \$5.2 million, was competitively made to nonprofit arts groups and collaborating organizations in all 95 counties.

We always welcome new members, and so at the beginning of the 110th General Assembly, I would like to invite you to drop by for an informal breakfast on the morning of Thursday, February 2, before the House and Senate Floor Sessions. Beginning at 8:15 a.m., we'll be serving coffee and doughnuts in the Legislative Library on the second floor of the Capitol across from the Senate Chamber.

Members and staff of the Tennessee Arts Commission and Board Members of Tennesseans for the Arts also will be on hand to answer your questions and tell you

about how the arts are enriching the lives of your constituents. If you are already a member of the Arts Caucus, I hope you will drop by and have a cup of coffee with us.

I hope to see you at 8:15 a.m. on February 2.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Overbey". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Douglas Overbey

Chairman, The Arts Caucus