September 1, 1993

The Honorable Sidney R. Yates
Chairman
Interior Appropriations Subcommittee
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We, the organizations listed below, understand that the full Senate will likely take up consideration of the Interior Appropriations bill in mid-September, and that House and Senate conferees will begin work shortly thereafter. While we understand and appreciate the fiscal constraints under which Congress must operate, it is our hope that you will be able to persuade the conferees to agree to the House figures for grants and administration for the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

As you know, the Congressional Budget Office estimates implementation of the legislation to cost about $50 million. Most of the projected costs are to be incurred in establishing an inventory of the more than 3.5 million items known to be within the scope of NAGPRA. The money appropriated for this program will greatly assist museums and tribes by providing grant money to help carry out these long and costly inventories and for other expenses connected with the repatriation process.

On behalf of the organizations below, and the entire community of museums, tribes, universities, archaeologists and historic preservation officers, we thank you for your leadership on this matter to date and for your help when the conference convenes.

Sincerely,

Edward H. Able, Jr.

American Association of Museums

Edward H. Able, Jr.
Executive Director

cc: Members of the Subcommittee

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American Association of Museums
Association of American Universities
National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers
Native American Rights Fund
Society for Historical Archaeology
Society for American Archaeology
Association of Systematics Collections
Mountain-Plains Museum Association
Museum Trustee Association
Pennsylvania Federation of Museums & Historic Organizations
Texas Association of Museums

The Albuquerque Museum
American Museum of National History
Arizona State Museum
The Art Museum, Princeton University
Children's Museum of Indianapolis
Children's Museum of Utah
Clemson University Historic House Museums
Columbus Museum
Denver Art Museum
Denver Museum of Natural History
Field Museum of Natural History
The Heard Museum
Illinois State Museum
Kaminski House Museum
Lauren Rogers Museum of Art
The Mariner's Museum
Maxwell Museum of Anthropology
Memphis Museum System
Metropolitan Museum of Art
Miami Youth Museum
Minnesota Museum of American Art
The Mint Museum of Art
Montana Historical Society
Museum of History & Industry
Natural History Museum of L.A. County
Neville Public Museum of Brown County
Newport Art Museum
Oklahoma Museum of Natural History
Old Sturbridge Village
Peabody & Essex Museum
Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
Harvard University
Plains Art Museum
Public Museum of Grand Rapids
Racine County Museum
Research Laboratories of Anthropology
Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archeology
Seattle Art Museum
South Carolina State Museum
The Strong Museum

Albuquerque, NM
New York, NY
Tuscan, AZ
Princeton, NJ
Indianapolis, IN
Salt Lake City, UT
Clemson, SC
Columbus, GA
Denver, CO
Chicago, IL
Phoenix, AZ
Springfield, IL
Georgetown, SC
Laurel, MS
Newport News, VA
Albuquerque, NW
Memphis, TN
New York, NY
Miami, FL
St. Paul, MN
Charlotte, LA
Helena, MT
Seattle, WA
Los Angeles, CA
Green Bay, WI
Newport, RI
Norman, OK
Sturbridge, MA
Salem, MA
Cambridge, MA
Fargo, ND/Moorhead, MN
Grand Rapids, MI
Racine, WI
Chapel Hill, NC
Andover, MA
Seattle, WA
Columbia, SC
Rochester, NY
Taylor Museum for Southwestern Studies
Tennessee Botanical Gardens & Fine Arts
   Center at Cheekwood
University Gallery, University of Delaware
University Museum of Archeology &
   Anthropology, Univ. of Pennsylvania
University of California System
Utah Museum of Fine Art
Utah Museum of Natural History
Van Cortlandt House Museum
Vermillionville Historic Foundation
Weatherspoon Art Gallery
West Virginia State Museum
Wignall Museum Gallery
Williams College Museum of Art

Colorado Springs, CO
   Nashville, TN
Newark, DE
   Philadelphia, PA
Berkeley, CA
Salt Lake City, UT
Salt Lake City, UT
Bronx, NY
Lafayette, LA
Greensboro, NC
Charleston, WV
Rancho Cucamonga, CA
Williams Town, MA