



**To:** Arts Action Fund Members

**From:** Americans for the Arts Action Fund

**Date:** August 2, 2018

**Re:** Dianne Feinstein and the Arts, 2018 Candidate for California U.S. Senate

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**Name:** Dianne Feinstein

**Party:** Democrat

**Occupation:** U.S. Senator from California

**Incumbent:** Yes

**Years Served:** 1992-Present, 26 years

**Born:** June 22, 1933 (85 years old) in San Francisco, CA

**Previous Public Offices:** Mayor of San Francisco (1978-1988).

**Other Positions:** N/A

**Educational Background:** Received her Bachelor of Arts in History from Stanford University.

**Contact Information:**

- Campaign Website: <https://feinsteinforca.com/>
- Campaign Email: [contact@feinsteinforca.com](mailto:contact@feinsteinforca.com)
- Campaign Mailing Address: Post Office Box 1270 Los Angeles, CA 90078
- Campaign Phone Number: 866-747-2981

**Social Media Platforms:**

- Facebook: @DianneFeinstein 45.6k followers
- Twitter: @DianneFeinstein 6.2k followers
- Instagram: N/A

### 2018 General Campaign Prediction:

- Solid D (Source: [Cook Political Report](#))
- Last General Election: won by 62.5% of the vote (Source: [Cook Political Report](#)).
- Last Primary Election: won by 49.5% of the vote (Source: [Cook Political Report](#)).
- Won the democratic nomination by 44.2% of the vote with 2,031,967 total votes on June 5, 2018 (Source: [Washington Post](#)).

### Personal Arts Background:

- Feinstein is a visual artist and enjoys drawing flowers and birds. She does not sell her drawings but she does donate reproductions of her originals with her signature to auctions all over the state of California. (Source: [NBC Bay Area](#))
- Dianne Feinstein lobbied Congress to pass the indemnity legislation for museums. The legislation was passed and included in the omnibus spending bill signed by President George W. Bush in December 2007. (Source: [NEA](#))

### Notable Arts Quotes:

- *"Great music is the work of not just great artists, but talented sound engineers, mixers, and producers as well. For the first time, this legislation protects their contributions under federal law, and ensures that they can receive the royalties they are due for their part in creating the music we so enjoy."* – Dianne Feinstein stated on March 23, 2018 when introducing a bill to improve and simplify the payment of royalties owed to music producers and other studio professionals. (Source: [Vote Smart](#))

### Arts Action Fund Congressional Report Card:

- [2016 Congressional Report Card](#): Thumbs up
- [2014 Congressional Report Card](#): Thumbs up
- [2012 Congressional Report Card](#): B+
- [2010 Congressional Report Card](#): B+

### Examples of Actions on the Arts

- **Funding for National Endowment for the Arts:**
  - Voted yes to pass a conference report (HR 2361) that appropriates \$27.73 billion for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for FY 2006. Bill passed through the Senate with a vote of 94 to 0 on June 29, 2005. (Source: [Congress.Gov](#))
  - Voted yes to table an amendment (S AMDT 1569) that would cut all federal funding to the National Endowment for the Arts. Amendment was tabled on August 5, 1999 with a Senate vote of 80 to 16. (Source: [Congress.Gov](#))
  - Voted yes to adopt a conference report (HR 4602) that appropriates \$14.18 billion for the Interior Department and related agencies for fiscal year 1995. Conference report was adopted by the senate with a vote of 92 to 7 on September 28, 1994. (Source: [Congress.Gov](#))

- **Tax Cuts and Jobs Act:**
  - Voted no on *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act* (HR 1) sponsored by Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX) which would double the standard deduction limiting specific incentives for income tax deductions of gifts to charity, becoming severely limited to only the top five percent of taxpayers who itemize their deductions. The Senate voted 51 to 48 on December 13, 2017 to pass the bill in a party-line vote. (Source: [New York Times](#))
  
- **2010 Transportation Appropriations Bill:**
  - Voted no on an amendment offered by Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK) to halt funding for the Transportation Enhancement program, which includes funding eligible for historic preservation and museums, within the FY 2010 Transportation Appropriations Bill. Amendment failed on September 16, 2009 with a vote of 39-59. (Source: [2010 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  - Voted yes on motion to table an amendment offered by Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) to prohibit Transportation Enhancement funds in the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2012 from being used on “lower-priority projects,” such as transportation museums, historic preservation and public art projects. Amendment tabled by the Senate on October 19, 2011 with a vote of 59 to 39. (Source: [2010 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  
- **Every Student Succeeds Act:**
  - Voted yes on S.1177—Senate bill to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, titled *Every Child Achieves Act* (ECAA). Bill passed Senate with a vote of 81 to 17 on July 16, 2015. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  - Voted yes on S.1177—Final legislation to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, now called the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), replacing No Child Left Behind. Final legislation passed with a vote of 85-12 on December 9, 2015. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  
- **Letters:**
  - Signed letter to President Donald J. Trump to preserve federal funding for National Arts and Humanities Programs on February 17, 2017. (Source: [Arts Action Fund](#))
  - Cosigned a “Dear Colleague” letter on March 16, 2018, asking for a funding level of at least \$155 million for the NEA in FY19 Interior Appropriations bill. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  - Cosigned a “Dear Colleague” letter on March 16, 2016, asking Senate appropriators to fund the NEA and NEH at no less than \$149.8 million in FY 2017. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  - Cosigned a "Dear Colleague" letter on March 17, 2016, asking Senate appropriators to support "robust" funding for the Office of Museum Services in FY 2017. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  - Cosigned a "Dear Colleague" letter on March 27, 2015, asking Senate appropriators to support "robust" funding for the Office of Museum Services in FY 2016. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))

### Committees:

- Member of the Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies (Source: [Appropriations.Gov](#)).
- Vice chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee (2015-2017) (Source: [Intelligence.Gov](#)).
- Chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee (2009-2015) (Source: [Intelligence.Gov](#)).

### Membership:

- Feinstein has been a member in the Senate Cultural Caucus since 2006. She is currently serving as a member in the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress. There are 34 members and the list is maintained by office of Caucus Co-Chairs, Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) and Senator Tom Udall (D-NM). (Source: [Americans for the Arts](#))

### Information on Arts and the Economy in California:

- In California, arts and culture was a \$174.60 billion industry—equivalent to 7.00 percent of the state economy—in 2015. There were a total of 705,506 arts and culture industry jobs.<sup>1</sup>
- A 2017 analysis of Dun & Bradstreet data found 103,191 businesses employed 545,627 people in California involved in the creation or distribution of the arts—5.11 percent of all businesses and 2.11 percent of all employees.<sup>2</sup>

### Sample Advocacy Questions on the Arts:

- Senator Feinstein, you voted yes on *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) so that states now have more responsibility for providing a well-rounded education – including the arts. Would you support full funding (\$1.6 billion) of the Well-Rounded Education provisions of ESSA and advocate for integration of the arts into STEM education?
- Nonprofit arts organizations are charities, and on average, 25 percent of their annual budgets rely on donations made by individual taxpayers to serve the public good. The charitable tax deduction incentive is currently only available to individuals who itemize their tax returns. Would you support a Universal Charitable Deduction, so all taxpayers have the incentive to donate?
- The budget of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) was cut in half during the 1990s. With its current funding of \$153 million, the NEA spends just 47 cents per American—half the cost of a pack of gum. Would you support a plan to increase federal arts funding to the NEA to \$1 per American, so that arts organizations in your state can present even more accessible arts programs for all its residents?

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<sup>1</sup>Arts and cultural production are defined as those industries that produce arts and culture related commodities and generally follow the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). Employment estimates for ACP-related industries are for “direct” employment. [Arts and Culture Production Satellite Account](#) (ACPSA), 2015; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and National Endowment for the Arts, 2018.

<sup>2</sup>Findings count active U.S. businesses registered with Duns & Bradstreet in the following categories: museums and collections; performing arts; visual art/photography; film, radio, and television; design and publishing; schools and services. [Creative Industries: Business & Employment in the Arts](#), Americans for the Arts, 2017

**About ArtsVote2018:**

- The mission of ArtsVote2018 is to advance the role of arts in the 2018 midterm elections by providing arts advocates, arts leaders, elected officials, and media with needed information to effectively advocate for the arts.