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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND

2005 MAR 31 PM 3:18

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MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** OAKLAND CITY COUNCILMEMBERS  
**FROM:** COUNCILMEMBER NANCY NADEL, DISTRICT THREE *NA*  
**SUBJECT:** SUPPORT FOR AB 655 - FUNDING FOR THE CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL  
**DATE:** 3/31/2005  
**CC:** ASSEMBLYMEMBERS WILMA CHAN, LONI HANCOCK AND MARK LENO

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SUMMARY

The California Arts Council (CAC) was established in 1976 and has helped develop and sustain California as a national leader in arts performance, arts education in schools, and working artist communities, including the many artists living and working in Oakland.

In 2003, the California State Legislature, citing budget cuts, slashed funding for the CAC by 94%, from close to \$30 million to around \$1 million, leaving California dead last in per capita arts spending throughout the country. This bill is estimated to generate approximately \$17-\$25 million in dedicated funding to restore some of the many programs.

Oakland and Alameda County have traditionally been a thriving center for arts activities, and Oakland artists and programs have enjoyed great support from the CAC over the years. In 2002 for example, Alameda County received 9% of total funding from the CAC (Alameda County has about 4% of the state's population). Funding levels have been similar over the last ten years. Attached is a map showing the economic impact of arts in California.

I encourage you to vote to support this bill and request our representatives join on as co-sponsors of this bill.

*NA-10.1300*  
COUNCIL  
APR 5 2005

# THE ARTS MEAN BUSINESS

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## Total Economic Impact for California by Sub-Geographic Area

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- \$5.4 Billion Generated
- Over 160,000 Jobs
- Nearly \$300 Million in Taxes



[www.cac.ca.gov](http://www.cac.ca.gov)  
Source: *The Arts: A Competitive Advantage for California II*

*S-10.1300*

ARTS COUNCIL

APR 5 2005