



**American
Alliance of
Museums**

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President**

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Representative Steve Chabot
2371 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Chabot,

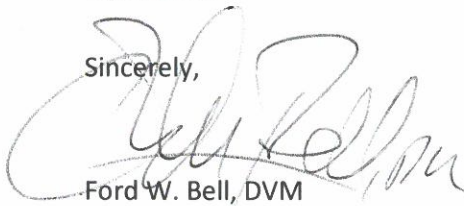
On behalf of the American Alliance of Museums and our more than 4,000 member institutions, thank you for your leadership in once again introducing and advancing H.R. 889, the Foreign Cultural Exchange Jurisdictional Immunity Clarification Act.

Exchanges with foreign museums are an important source of inspiration and temporary exhibitions for American museums of all sizes, and these loans help museums bring the best of the world's cultural heritage to our communities. Through these exchanges, museums broaden horizons and help visitors better understand different times and places. Indeed, Congress has affirmed the educational value of international cultural exchange on numerous occasions.

As you are aware, the results of the *Malevich v. City of Amsterdam* case created an uncertain environment for these exchanges, and museums around the country have reported that it has hampered their ability to secure loans from abroad. Your narrowly crafted legislation would alleviate those concerns and help the free exchange of art and cultural heritage flourish across international borders.

We deeply appreciate your thoughtful work on this issue, and look forward to the enactment of this legislation.

Sincerely,



Ford W. Bell, DVM