

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ARTS AND CULTURE SECTOR TO THE
REGIONAL ECONOMY

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of the 24 jurisdictions of the National Capital Region's local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the COG Board designated strengthening the regional economy and workforce development as a priority to support regional efforts that help attract and retain talent, jobs, and businesses in the region; and

WHEREAS, in February 2017, the COG Board approved the *State of the Region: Human Capital Report*, which found that future economic prosperity of metropolitan Washington will rely on the region's investment in its workforce and key industry sectors, including in the hospitality and retail sectors; and

WHEREAS, the *Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 (AEP5) Study* analyses the economic impact of the nonprofit arts and culture sector in the metropolitan Washington region – one that generates \$3.75 billion in total economic activity and provides 59,423 full-time jobs in the region; and

WHEREAS, the *AEP5* Study found that nonprofit arts and cultural organizations make their communities more desirable places to live and work, employ people locally, purchase goods and services from other local businesses, and attract tourists.

WHEREAS, COG recognizes that the arts help fuel the local economy and the importance of the arts in their communities; and

WHEREAS, COG values the contributions of the arts community within each unique jurisdiction and as a whole throughout the region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:

The board commends the work of the Americans for the Arts and its partners for their work on the *Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 Study* and recognizes the economic value that the nonprofit arts and cultural organizations bring to the metropolitan Washington region.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing resolution was adopted by the COG Board of Directors on September 13, 2017.

Laura Ambrosio
COG Communications Specialist