

United States Congress

The Illinois Delegation

Washington, D.C. 20510



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July 27, 1983

Mr. John Herrington
 Assistant to the President for
 Presidential Personnel
 The White House
 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
 Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Herrington:

As members of the Illinois Congressional Delegation, we are writing in support of the nomination of Dr. Bailey Donnally to the National Science Board.

Recently, the Congress has been made increasingly aware of our nation's current inability to provide the trained and technically skilled personnel so necessary to our continued national economic strength and vitality. During this session of Congress, legislation has been introduced and acted upon which would establish a broad national policy to address the education and training of individuals in the critical areas of mathematics, science and technology.

The National Science Foundation under the direction of the National Science Board will no doubt be at the forefront of future efforts in this area. However, in order that the Foundation may best serve this essential role, we members of the Illinois Delegation, are concerned that the Board be composed of individuals who represent and have experience with the broadest possible base of our nation's educational institutions.

The issue of broadening the National Science Board was raised in a recent meeting between the Associated Colleges of the Midwest and the new president of the NSF, Mr. Edward Knapp. The discussion centered on the substantial number of individuals from small, liberal arts colleges who go on to pursue graduate studies. The meeting concluded in a recommendation by Mr. Knapp of the possible addition to the Board of an individual familiar with the contributions of small, liberal arts colleges to the science community.

Inspired by Mr. Knapp's suggestion, the Associated Colleges of the Midwest and the Great Lakes College Association have sought and found in Dr. Donnally an individual worthy of nomination to the National Science Board.

We feel strongly that Dr. Donnally's appointment would go far toward ensuring that the small, liberal arts colleges of this country are active participants in the preparation of tomorrow's workforce.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Percy
United States Senator

Alan J. Dixon
United States Senator

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