

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 SENATE BILL 481

By: Kirt

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the Oklahoma Arts Council;
8 creating the Cultural Districts Initiative Act;
9 defining terms; stating powers and duties;
10 authorizing certain funding and expenditures;
11 providing for funding; providing for codification;
12 and providing an effective date.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 181 of Title 53, unless there is
16 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17 A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Cultural
18 Districts Initiative Act".

19 B. For purposes of this act:

20 1. "Cultural district" means a mixed-use area of a community,
21 whether rural, suburban or urban, in which a high concentration of
22 arts and cultural facilities or activities serves as the anchor of
23 attraction or development. Cultural districts may do any of the
24 following:

- a. attract and retain artists, creative entrepreneurs, creative industries and cultural enterprises to stimulate commerce,
- b. encourage entrepreneurship and small business development,
- c. establish and promote marketable cultural tourism assets,
- d. preserve the community's authentic cultural identity by highlighting the region's existing artists, cultural traditions and historic and other culturally significant structures, and
- e. offer arts and cultural programming and events that build a sense of community and foster cross-cultural understanding; and

2. "Certified cultural district" means a cultural district that has been certified by the Oklahoma Arts Council through a competitive application process.

C. The Oklahoma Arts Council shall administer this act.

The Oklahoma Arts Council shall have powers and duties as follows:

1. To implement this act;
2. To establish a competitive application and renewal process for certification as a state-designated certified cultural district;

1 3. To provide, whenever possible, state supported assistance
2 for both developing and certified cultural districts including, but
3 not limited to:

4 a. technical assistance in program development and
5 marketing, and

6 b. gathering and reporting data about the economic
7 activity, goals and outcomes of the district; and

8 4. To collaborate with other public agencies and private
9 entities to enhance visibility and ensure broad and equitable
10 benefits for certified cultural districts.

11 D. Subject to funds available, the Legislature may appropriate
12 funds to the Oklahoma Arts Council for purposes of this act.

13 E. The Oklahoma Arts Council may solicit and receive monies,
14 gifts, donations, bequests, grants and other resources from any
15 public or private source for purposes of this act. The Oklahoma
16 Arts Council may expend any monies received pursuant to this act for
17 any purpose it deems necessary pursuant to the authority of this
18 act.

19 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.
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