

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

3 SENATE BILL 106

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 the Cultural Districts Initiative 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:

- 1 a. attract artists, creative entrepreneurs, creative  
2 industries and cultural enterprises to stimulate  
3 commerce,  
4 b. encourage entrepreneurship and small business  
5 development particularly in rural and under-resourced  
6 communities by incentivizing the establishment of new  
7 and relocating businesses,  
8 c. establish and promote marketable tourism assets  
9 highlighting the distinct cultural identity of the  
10 community and attracting in-state, out-of-state and  
11 international visitors,  
12 d. preserve the community's authentic cultural identity  
13 by highlighting the region's existing artists and  
14 cultural traditions,  
15 e. provide opportunities for and mechanisms to recruit  
16 and sustain new artists, creative industries and  
17 organizations,  
18 f. offer arts and cultural programming and events that  
19 build a sense of community and foster cross-cultural  
20 understanding,  
21 g. celebrate the community's uniquely-built environment,  
22 encouraging the preservation and reuse of historic  
23 buildings and other culturally significant structures,  
24 and

1 h. enhance the quality of life for residents and attract  
2 a well-educated and creative workforce to the  
3 community; and

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

7 C. The Oklahoma Arts Council shall administer the Cultural  
8 Districts Initiative Act.

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

11 1. To implement the Cultural Districts Initiative Act;

12 2. To establish a competitive application process for  
13 participation in a cultural district development program that  
14 assists communities with further developing existing cultural  
15 assets;

16 3. To establish a competitive application and renewal process  
17 for certification as a state-designated certified cultural district;

18 4. To provide, whenever possible, state supported assistance  
19 for both developing and certified cultural districts including, but  
20 not limited to:

21 a. technical assistance in program development and  
22 marketing,

- 1           b. identifying and facilitating local access to other  
2           relevant non-profit, state and federal resources and  
3           funding opportunities,  
4           c. finding or making referrals to professional service  
5           providers that may assist in a district's activities,  
6           and  
7           d. gathering and reporting data about the economic  
8           activity, goals and outcomes of the district; and

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

12          D. Subject to funds available, the Legislature may appropriate  
13          funds to the Oklahoma Arts Council for purposes of the Cultural  
14          Districts Initiative Act.

15          E. The Oklahoma Arts Council may solicit and receive monies,  
16          gifts, donations, bequests, grants and other resources from any  
17          public or private source for purposes of the Cultural Districts  
18          Initiative Act. The Oklahoma Arts Council may expend any monies  
19          received pursuant to the Cultural Districts Initiative Act for any  
20          purpose it deems necessary pursuant to the authority of the Cultural  
21          Districts Initiative Act.

22          SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.  
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