
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ARTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 201, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
3 to read as follows:

4 **"PART . CREATIVE DISTRICTS**

5 **§201-A Definitions.** As used in this part:

6 "Department" means the department of business, economic
7 development, and tourism.

8 "Director" means the director of business, economic
9 development, and tourism.

10 "Coordinator" means the individual designated by the
11 director to perform the specific tasks under this part.

12 "Creative district" means an area designated as a creative
13 district by a county.

14 **§201-B Creative district; designation.** (a) A county may
15 designate an area as a creative district subject to
16 certification as a state-certified creative district pursuant to
17 section 201-C.



1 (b) To qualify for designation as a creative district, the
2 land area to be included in the creative district shall be:

3 (1) Geographically contiguous;

4 (2) Distinguished by physical, artistic, or cultural
5 resources that play a vital role in the quality and
6 life of the community in which it is located;

7 (3) The site of a concentration of artistic or cultural
8 activity, a major arts or cultural institution or
9 facility, arts and entertainment businesses, or an
10 area with arts and cultural activities or artistic or
11 cultural production; and

12 (4) Engaged in the promotional, preservation, and
13 educational aspects of the arts and culture of the
14 community and contribute to the public through
15 interpretive, educational, or recreational uses.

16 **§201-C Certification.** A county shall apply to the
17 department for certification of an area as a creative district.
18 The coordinator shall review the qualifications of the area for
19 which the county is applying for certification as a creative
20 district in meeting the criteria in section 201-B, and submit a



1 recommendation to the director for approval of certification as
2 a creative district.

3 §201-D County incentives. The county in which a creative
4 district has been designated may propose incentives, including;

- 5 (1) Reduced permit fees;
- 6 (2) Reduced real property taxes;
- 7 (3) Exemption from local ordinances; and
- 8 (4) Other incentives."

9 SECTION 2. The department of business, economic
10 development, and tourism shall review the proposed incentives
11 and develop a variety of incentives to promote the
12 establishment, designation, and enhancement of artistic and
13 cultural activities in designated cultural districts.

14 SECTION 3. The department of business, economic
15 development, and tourism shall submit a report on the
16 designation of creative districts statewide, including the
17 number of requests received for the designation of creative
18 districts, the number of districts designated as creative
19 districts, and the incentives used for the creation of the
20 creative districts and to promote the establishment,



1 designation, and enhancement of artistic and cultural activities
2 in the designated cultural districts.

3 The department of business, economic development, and
4 tourism, shall submit the report, including any findings,
5 recommendations, and any necessary proposed legislation to the
6 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
7 the regular session of 2019.

8 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
11 designation and establishment of creative districts.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
13 business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes of
14 this Act.

15 SECTION 5. In codifying the new sections added by section
16 1 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute
17 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating
18 the new sections in this Act.

19 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.



Report Title:

Arts; Culture; Creative Districts

Description:

Allows for the establishment and certification of creative districts to promote culture and the arts. Allows for incentives. Requires the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism to submit a report. Appropriates Funds. (HB2699 HD1)

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