

By: Alvarado

S.B. No. 2505

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the cultural advancement fund.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 444, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter CC to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER CC. CULTURAL ADVANCEMENT FUND PROGRAM

Sec.444.033. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Commission" means the Texas Commission on the Arts.

(2) "Cultural advancement" means any efforts that promote and support the sustainability of any culture in the State of Texas, including a culture's art, dance, music, or history.

(a) For purposes of this section, "culture" means any nationality, racial, or ethnic group.

(3) "Fund" means the cultural advancement fund created under Section 444.034.

Sec. 444.034. CULTURAL ADVANCEMENT FUND. (a) The commission shall establish and administer the Cultural Advancement Fund as a dedicated account in the general revenue fund.

(b) The following amounts shall be deposited in the fund:

(1) any money appropriated by the legislature for the fund for purposes of this chapter;

(2) interest earned on the investment of money in the fund; and

1                   (3) gifts, grants, and donations received for the  
2 fund.

3           Sec. 444.035. GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The commission shall  
4 establish and administer the Cultural Advancement Fund grant  
5 program to benefit cultural centers, nonprofit corporations  
6 defined by section 22.001, Business Organizations Code, art venues,  
7 museums, or other entities that spur economic development through  
8 cultural advancement.

9           (b) To be eligible to receive a grant under the grant  
10 program, an applicant must:

- 11                   (1) apply in a manner prescribed by commission rule;  
12                   (2) be in good standing under the laws of this state;  
13 and  
14                   (3) have a legitimate need for the grant.

15           Sec.444.036. USES OF GRANT. A grant recipient may use the  
16 grant received under this subchapter for any expense needed to  
17 promote cultural advancement, including costs related to payroll,  
18 programming, remodeling, and renovating facilities.

19           Sec.444.037. RULES. The commission shall adopt rules  
20 necessary to implement this subchapter.

21           SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
22 of this Act, and not later than September 1, 2024, the Commission on  
23 the Arts shall adopt rules necessary to implement Subchapter CC,  
24 Chapter 444, Government Code, as added by this Act.

25           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.