

By: Mallory Caraway

H.B. No. 2951

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation, powers, and duties of film districts.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle A, Title 10, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 309 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 309. FILM DISTRICTS

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 309.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Board" means a district's board of directors.

(2) "District" means a film district created under this chapter.

Sec. 309.002. NATURE OF DISTRICT. A district is a political subdivision of this state and a special district.

[Sections 309.003-309.050 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER B. CREATION

Sec. 309.051. CREATION BY POPULOUS MUNICIPALITY. A municipality with a population of one million or more may create a district as provided by this subchapter to promote the film industry in a designated area in the municipality.

Sec. 309.052. HEARING. Before creating a district, the governing body of a municipality must hold a hearing on the purposes and advisability of creating the district. Any interested person may speak at the hearing.

Sec. 309.053. ORDER CREATING DISTRICT; INITIAL DIRECTORS.

1 (a) After a hearing under Section 309.052, if a governing body finds
2 that the municipality and the designated area would benefit from
3 the district's creation, the governing body by order may create the
4 district.

5 (b) The order must specify:

6 (1) the district's boundaries, which must be wholly in
7 the municipality;

8 (2) the number and qualifications of directors to be
9 appointed under Section 309.103; and

10 (3) the initial directors and the terms of those
11 initial directors.

12 (c) The initial directors' terms must be staggered, with as
13 near as possible to half of the directors' terms expiring in one
14 year and the remainder expiring in two years.

15 [Sections 309.054-309.100 reserved for expansion]

16 SUBCHAPTER C. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

17 Sec. 309.101. GOVERNING BODY. A district is governed by a
18 board of at least seven directors.

19 Sec. 309.102. TERMS. Directors serve staggered two-year
20 terms.

21 Sec. 309.103. APPOINTMENT BY MUNICIPALITY. The governing
22 body of a municipality that creates a district shall appoint the
23 directors as provided by the order creating the district. The
24 directors must include:

25 (1) two directors who represent the interests of the
26 municipality and reside in the municipality;

27 (2) one director who represents a local or regional

1 film commission located in the municipality;

2 (3) one director who represents a school district that
3 has the majority of its territory located in the municipality;

4 (4) one director who represents an institution of
5 higher education, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code,
6 located in the municipality;

7 (5) one director who represents a public junior
8 college, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code, located in
9 the municipality; and

10 (6) any other directors as provided by the order
11 creating the district.

12 Sec. 309.104. COMPENSATION; EXPENSES. A director is not
13 entitled to compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for
14 actual and necessary expenses.

15 Sec. 309.105. OFFICERS. A board shall elect a presiding
16 officer, secretary, treasurer, and any other officers the board
17 considers necessary.

18 [Sections 309.106-309.150 reserved for expansion]

19 SUBCHAPTER D. POWERS AND DUTIES

20 Sec. 309.151. PROMOTION OF FILM INDUSTRY. A district shall
21 promote the film industry in the district.

22 Sec. 309.152. PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES. A
23 district shall act jointly with the municipality, local businesses,
24 the film industry, and other local communities to promote the film
25 industry in the district.

26 Sec. 309.153. INCENTIVES. A district may provide
27 incentives to promote the film industry in the district.

1 Sec. 309.154. DONATIONS; GRANTS. A district may accept a
2 donation or grant from any person for any district purpose.

3 Sec. 309.155. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; EMPLOYEES. A district
4 may hire an executive director and other employees.

5 [Sections 309.156-309.200 reserved for expansion]

6 SUBCHAPTER E. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

7 Sec. 309.201. BORROWING. A district may borrow money from
8 any person for any district purpose.

9 [Sections 309.202-309.250 reserved for expansion]

10 SUBCHAPTER F. DISSOLUTION

11 Sec. 309.251. DISSOLUTION. A board may dissolve a district
12 that has no debt.

13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.