
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6692

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN ARTS, CULTURE AND TOURISM GRANTS.

SUMMARY

This bill modifies the Department of Economic and Community Development's (DECD) tourism- and arts-related powers and duties.

Regarding DECD's tourism-related duties, the bill requires the department to (1) develop and administer a grant program, within available appropriations, to support the programs and initiatives of entities primarily engaged in tourism-related activities and (2) establish metrics and an accountability structure for the state's tourism investments.

Current law on DECD's arts-related duties authorizes the department to give grants, loans, or advances to individuals and entities for artistic and cultural programs or activities in the state (or for promoting, developing, or encouraging them). Specifically, DECD must provide financial assistance through a special incentive grant program it administers. The bill (1) specifies that this financial assistance may include grants or loans for statewide marketing, infrastructure, or workforce development and (2) requires the department to identify strategic goals and establish metrics and an accountability structure for its special incentive grant program.

Under existing law and unchanged by the bill, state funds appropriated to DECD for the special incentive grant program cannot be disbursed unless one third of any financial assistance consists of non-federal funds the department raises and receives.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference - FIN

Yea 22 Nay 1 (03/09/2023)

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 51 Nay 0 (04/18/2023)