

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 189**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bloom**

January 27, 2015

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An act to add Chapter 9.2 (commencing with Section 8758) to Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code, relating to state government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 189, as introduced, Bloom. Arts Council: cultural districts.

The Dixon-Zenovich-Maddy California Arts Act of 1975 establishes the Arts Council, consisting of 11 appointed members, sets forth the duties of the council, and authorizes the council to receive and spend moneys for the purpose of promoting arts in the state.

This bill would require the Arts Council to establish criteria and guidelines for state-designated cultural districts, as defined. The bill would require the council to establish a competitive application system for certification, provide technical and promotional support for certified state-designated cultural districts, and collaborate with public agencies and private entities to maximize the benefits of state-designated cultural districts. The bill would provide that a geographical area within the state may be certified as a state-designated cultural district by applying to the council for certification, as provided. The bill would also provide that certification as a state-designated cultural district is effective for 5 years, after which the district may renew certification every 3 years.

This bill would authorize the council to solicit and receive gifts, donations, bequests, grants of funds, or any other revenues, from public or private sources and to expend those moneys, upon appropriation by

the Legislature, for a state-designated cultural district program and for any other purposes it deems necessary to implement these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 9.2 (commencing with Section 8758) is  
2 added to Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to read:

3  
4 CHAPTER 9.2. STATE-DESIGNATED CULTURAL DISTRICTS  
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6 8758. (a) As used in this chapter, “state-designated cultural  
7 district” means a geographical area certified pursuant to this chapter  
8 with a concentration of cultural facilities, creative enterprises, or  
9 arts venues that does any of the following:

10 (1) Attracts artists, creative entrepreneurs, and cultural  
11 enterprises.

12 (2) Encourages economic development and supports  
13 entrepreneurship in the creative community.

14 (3) Encourages the preservation and reuse of historic buildings  
15 and other artistic and culturally significant structures.

16 (4) Fosters local cultural development.

17 (5) Provides a focal point for celebrating and strengthening the  
18 unique cultural identity of the community.

19 (b) The Arts Council shall establish criteria and guidelines for  
20 state-designated cultural districts. In executing its powers and  
21 duties under this chapter, the council shall do all of the following:

22 (1) Establish a competitive application system by which a  
23 community may apply for certification as a state-designated cultural  
24 district.

25 (2) Provide technical assistance and promotional support for  
26 state-designated cultural districts.

27 (3) Collaborate with other public agencies and private entities  
28 to maximize the benefits of state-designated cultural districts.

29 (c) A geographical area within the state may be certified as a  
30 state-designated cultural district by applying to the council for  
31 certification. Certification as a state-designated cultural district  
32 shall be for a period of five years, after which the district may  
33 renew certification every three years.

1     8758.1. The council may solicit and receive gifts, donations,  
2 bequests, grants of funds, or any other revenues, from public or  
3 private sources, and expend those moneys, upon appropriation of  
4 the Legislature, for a state-designated cultural district program and  
5 for any other purpose it deems necessary to implement this chapter.

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