

Chapter No. 400
13/HR40/R674SG
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3/25/13

6:13 pm

HOUSE BILL NO. 135

Originated in House



Clerk

HOUSE BILL NO. 135

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 39-25-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH IS THE LAW PERTAINING TO THE SOUTHERN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTER IN MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, TO CONFORM THE LAW TO THE CENTER'S NAME CHANGE TO THE "MISSISSIPPI ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTER"; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 39-25-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

39-25-1. (1) There is established the * * * Mississippi Arts and Entertainment Center ("center") to be housed in a facility or facilities located within the corporate limits of Meridian, Mississippi. The purpose of the center shall be to provide an educational, entertaining and interactive facility to * * * capture the essence of Mississippi's legacy in the arts and celebrate the richness and depth of that legacy and the Mississippians who created it with the world; and to provide family-oriented attractions in the delivery of an educational experience to citizens of, and visitors to, Mississippi.

(2) The center shall * * * be a state-of-the-art facility which may include, but not be limited to, MAEC exhibits, a state-sanctioned Mississippi Arts and Entertainment Hall of Fame inducting icons in all genres of arts and entertainment, Walk of Fame, auditorium, outdoor performance plaza, and broadcast/recording facility. The center will prove a vast educational resource for individuals and educators offering unparalleled insight into the lives and stories of Mississippi arts and entertainment treasures through seminars, workshops and demonstrations by guest professionals and/or amateur artists.

(3) The duties and objectives of the center shall be:

(a) To stimulate and encourage throughout the state the study and presentation of the performing, visual, and literary arts and public interest and participation therein;

(b) To encourage participation in, appreciation of, and education in the arts to meet the legitimate needs and aspirations of persons in all parts of the state;

(c) To take such steps as may be necessary and appropriate to encourage public interest in the cultural heritage of Mississippi and the south to expand the state's cultural resources, and to promote the use of art in state government's activities and facilities; and

(d) To encourage excellence and assist freedom of artistic expression essential for the well-being of the arts.

(4) The center is authorized to hold public hearings, to enter into contracts within the limit of funds available therefor, with individuals, organizations and institutions for services furthering the objectives of the center's programs; to enter into contracts, within the limit of funds available therefor, with local and regional associations for cooperative endeavors furthering the objectives of the center's programs; to make and sign any agreements and to do and perform any acts that may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(5) The Department of Finance and Administration may enter into any agreement with a nonprofit corporation necessary for the construction, operation and administration of the center. For the construction, operation and administration of the center, such nonprofit corporation may receive and expend any funds made available in any manner by public or private sources and may receive contributions and donations of land or other property and other forms of financial assistance and property, equipment, materials or manpower from persons, foundations, trust funds, corporations, organizations, and other public or private sources to be expended and used in carrying out the mission of the center.

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SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2013.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
February 7, 2013



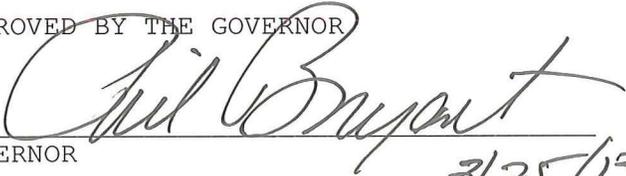
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PASSED BY THE SENATE
March 12, 2013



PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR



GOVERNOR
3/25/13
6:13pm