

By: Representative Currie

To: Accountability,
Efficiency, Transparency;
Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 1325

1 AN ACT TO BRING FORWARD SECTIONS 39-11-1, 39-11-5, 39-11-7,
2 39-11-9, 39-11-11, 39-11-13, 39-27-1, 39-32-1 AND 39-33-1,
3 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
4 THE MISSISSIPPI ARTS COMMISSION, PRESCRIBE THE DUTIES AND POWERS
5 OF THE COMMISSION, DESIGNATE THE ARTS COMMISSION TO DISBURSE
6 FEDERAL FUNDS FOR PROGRAMS RELATED TO THE PERFORMING, VISUAL AND
7 LITERACY ARTS, CREATE THE BUILDING FUND FOR THE ARTS, PROVIDE FOR
8 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI BLUES COMMISSION, PROVIDE FOR
9 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI COUNTRY AND WESTERN MUSIC
10 COMMISSION, AND PRESCRIBE THE DUTIES OF THE DIVISION OF TOURISM OF
11 THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE
12 MISSISSIPPI COUNTRY MUSIC TRAIL, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE
13 AMENDMENT; TO AMEND SECTION 39-11-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
14 WHICH SETS THE TERMS OF OFFICE AND COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE
15 ARTS COMMISSION, TO MAKE SOME MINOR NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGES; TO
16 AMEND SECTION 57-11-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH PROVIDES
17 FOR COOPERATION WITH THE MISSISSIPPI MARKETING COUNCIL BY STATE
18 AGENCIES, TO MAKE SOME MINOR NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGES; AND FOR
19 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

21 **SECTION 1.** Section 39-11-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
22 brought forward as follows:

23 39-11-1. There is hereby created and established a state
24 commission to be known as the Mississippi Arts Commission, to
25 consist of fifteen members broadly representative of all fields of
26 the performing, visual, literary arts, and the business community,



27 and who are to be appointed by the Governor from among citizens of
28 the state who have demonstrated a vital interest in the
29 performing, visual, or literary arts. These members shall also be
30 representative of the different geographical areas of the state.

31 **SECTION 2.** Section 39-11-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
32 amended as follows:

33 39-11-3. Of the members initially appointed to the
34 Mississippi Arts Commission, three (3) shall be appointed for
35 terms of one (1) year, three (3) for terms of two (2) years, three
36 (3) for terms of three (3) years, three (3) for terms of four (4)
37 years and three (3) for terms of five (5) years. Thereafter,
38 terms shall be for five (5) years. The members heretofore
39 appointed to the commission under Executive Order No. 12 are to
40 remain contingent members of the Mississippi Arts Commission until
41 their successors are appointed under this chapter. No member of
42 the commission who serves a full five-year term shall be eligible
43 for reappointment during a one-year period following the
44 expiration of his term. All vacancies shall be filled for the
45 balance of the unexpired term in the same manner as original
46 appointments. The members of the commission shall not receive any
47 compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for actual
48 and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties
49 as members of the commission. The commission will annually elect
50 its chairman and other officers.



51 **SECTION 3.** Section 39-11-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
52 brought forward as follows:

53 39-11-5. The chairman shall employ, with the approval of the
54 commission, an executive director as administrative officer. The
55 executive director shall employ other officers, experts and
56 employees as may be needed and shall fix their compensation within
57 the amounts made available for such purposes. Employment of staff
58 members is subject to the approval of the commission. The
59 commission may also, at its discretion, form advisory panels from
60 qualified persons within the state to obtain their advice and
61 counsel on matters pertaining to the arts. Members of these
62 panels shall serve at the will and pleasure of the commission and
63 will receive no compensation.

64 **SECTION 4.** Section 39-11-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
65 brought forward as follows:

66 39-11-7. The duties and objectives of the commission shall
67 be:

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

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

74 (3) To take such steps as may be necessary and
75 appropriate, to encourage public interest in the cultural heritage



76 of Mississippi, to expand the state's cultural resources, and to
77 promote the use of art in the state government's activities and
78 facilities; and

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

81 **SECTION 5.** Section 39-11-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
82 brought forward as follows:

83 39-11-9. (1) The Mississippi Arts Commission is authorized
84 and empowered to hold public hearings, to enter into contracts
85 within the limit of funds available therefor, with individuals,
86 organizations and institutions for services furthering the
87 objectives of the commission's programs; to enter into contracts,
88 within the limit of funds available therefor, with local and
89 regional associations for cooperative endeavors furthering the
90 objectives of the commission's programs; to accept gifts,
91 contributions and bequests of funds from individuals, foundations,
92 corporations and other organizations or institutions for the
93 purpose of furthering the objectives of the commission's programs;
94 to make and sign any agreements and to do and perform any acts
95 that may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.
96 The commission may request and shall receive from any department,
97 division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the state such
98 assistance and data as will enable it properly to carry out its
99 powers and duties hereunder.



100 (2) A special fund to be designated as the Mississippi Fund
101 for the Arts is hereby created in the State Treasury. All funds
102 deposited in this fund shall be used exclusively for the
103 objectives of the commission as herein provided. Donations,
104 bequests and grants deposited into the Mississippi Fund for the
105 Arts may be disbursed by the Mississippi Arts Commission in
106 accordance with the terms of the bequest or grant and in
107 compliance with the purposes and policies of the Mississippi Arts
108 Commission. Any disbursements made from the fund shall be
109 authorized by both the chairman and the executive director of the
110 commission and shall be supported by official actions and votes
111 spread upon the minutes of the commission at an open public
112 meeting. Any unexpended balance in the fund at the end of the
113 fiscal year shall not lapse into the State General Fund and may be
114 expended by the commissioner in subsequent fiscal years. Any
115 interest earned on the fund may remain in the fund for
116 disbursement by the commission in compliance with its purposes and
117 policies. All transactions of the fund shall be reported annually
118 to appropriate state agencies and subject to audit by the State
119 Auditor and by auditors of donors. The Mississippi Fund for the
120 Arts shall not be used for grants from federal agencies,
121 including, but not limited to, the National Endowment for the
122 Arts.

123 **SECTION 6.** Section 39-11-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
124 brought forward as follows:



125 39-11-11. The commission is the official agency of the state
126 to receive and disburse appropriate funds made available by the
127 federal government for programs related to the performing, visual,
128 and literary arts.

129 **SECTION 7.** Section 39-11-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
130 brought forward as follows:

131 39-11-13. (1) (a) A special fund, to be designated as the
132 "Building Fund for the Arts," is created within the State
133 Treasury. The fund shall be maintained by the State Treasurer as
134 a separate and special fund, separate and apart from the General
135 Fund of the state. The fund shall consist of any money designated
136 for deposit therein from any source, including, but not limited
137 to, any state general obligation bonds issued for the purposes
138 described in this section. Unexpended amounts remaining in the
139 fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the State
140 General Fund, and investment earnings on amounts in the fund shall
141 be deposited into such fund.

142 (b) Money deposited into the fund shall be disbursed,
143 in the discretion of the Mississippi Arts Commission, to provide
144 grants to nonprofit organizations that are qualified as tax exempt
145 under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and units of
146 local government to pay the costs of:

147 (i) Repair, upgrading, expansion, renovation or
148 enhancement of existing buildings and facilities for the
149 presentation, teaching or exhibition of the arts in any and all of



150 its forms and furniture, equipment and/or technology for such
151 buildings or facilities;

152 (ii) Construction of new buildings and facilities
153 for the presentation, teaching or exhibition of the arts in any
154 and all of its forms and furniture, equipment and/or technology
155 for such buildings or facilities; or

156 (iii) The development, construction, equipping and
157 furnishing of an entertainment and film center and museum and
158 completion of a sound stage project.

159 (c) The entity to which such grants are made shall
160 provide matching funds from local, federal or private sources
161 equal to forty percent (40%) of the proposed project cost in order
162 to be eligible for a grant under this section.

163 (d) The maximum aggregate amount of monies in the
164 special fund that may be used to provide grant funds to an entity
165 or combination of entities under paragraph (b)(iii) of this
166 subsection shall not exceed One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00),
167 and no monies in the special fund may be used to provide grant
168 funds under paragraph (b)(iii) of this subsection after July 1,
169 2003. The maximum aggregate amount of grant funds that may be
170 provided to an entity or combination of entities under paragraph
171 (b)(iii) of this subsection during a fiscal year shall not exceed
172 Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00).

173 (2) (a) Amounts deposited into such special fund shall be
174 disbursed to pay the costs of projects described in subsection (1)



175 of this section. If any monies in the special fund are derived
176 from proceeds of bonds issued under Sections 3 through 18 of
177 Chapter 541, Laws of 2001, as amended by Chapter 540, Laws of
178 2002, as amended by Chapter 519, Laws of 2003, as amended by
179 Chapter 1, Laws of 2004 Third Extraordinary Session, as amended by
180 Chapter 538, Laws of 2006, as amended by Section 1 of Chapter 607,
181 Laws of 2007, and are not used within four (4) years after the
182 date such bond proceeds are deposited into the special fund, then
183 the Mississippi Arts Commission shall provide an accounting of
184 such unused monies to the State Bond Commission.

185 (b) Monies in the special fund which are derived from
186 proceeds of bonds issued after April 9, 2002, may be used to
187 reimburse reasonable actual and necessary costs incurred by the
188 Mississippi Arts Commission in providing assistance directly
189 related to a project described in subsection (1) of this section
190 for which grant funds are provided under this section from the use
191 of proceeds of such bonds. Reimbursement may be made only until
192 such time as the project is completed. An accounting of actual
193 costs incurred for which reimbursement is sought shall be
194 maintained for each project by the Mississippi Arts Commission.
195 Reimbursement of reasonable actual and necessary costs for a
196 project shall not exceed three percent (3%) of the proceeds of
197 bonds issued for such project. Monies authorized for a particular
198 project may not be used to reimburse administrative costs for



199 unrelated projects. This paragraph (b) shall be repealed from and
200 after July 1, 2018.

201 (3) The Mississippi Arts Commission is expressly authorized
202 and empowered to receive and expend any local or other source
203 funds in connection with the expenditure of funds provided for in
204 this section. The expenditure of money deposited into the special
205 fund shall be under the direction of the Mississippi Arts
206 Commission, and such funds shall be paid by the State Treasurer
207 upon warrants issued by the Department of Finance and
208 Administration upon request of the Mississippi Arts Commission,
209 which warrants shall be issued upon requisitions signed by the
210 Executive Director of the Mississippi Arts Commission, or his or
211 her designee.

212 (4) The Mississippi Arts Commission shall adopt necessary
213 rules and regulations to govern the administration of the program
214 described in subsection (1) of this section, including, but not
215 limited to, rules and regulations governing applications for
216 grants and rules and regulations providing for the distribution of
217 grant funds. The Mississippi Arts Commission shall comply with
218 the provisions of the Mississippi Administrative Procedures Law.

219 **SECTION 8.** Section 39-27-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
220 brought forward as follows:

221 39-27-1. (1) There is created the Mississippi Blues
222 Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "commission." The
223 commission may accept and expend grants and private donations from



224 any source, including federal, state, public and private entities,
225 to assist it to carry out its functions.

226 (2) For purposes of this chapter, the term "blues" shall
227 mean African-American roots music and the culture that created it.

228 (3) The powers, functions and duties of the commission shall
229 include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

230 (a) To study, deliberate and report to the Governor and
231 the Legislature on the best method or plan to market and foster an
232 appreciation of the blues, to include tourism, academic study and
233 blues archives, blues historical preservation, blues cultural
234 education and the support of performing artists. The marketing
235 plan shall be designed to attract tourists, conferences, music
236 performances, filmmakers and others for the purpose of economic
237 development of all geographic areas of the state, through the
238 promotion of the blues and the heritage and culture that produced
239 the blues, and to analyze the tourism potential of the blues for
240 Mississippi.

241 (b) To make an inventory of blues "assets" that make up
242 the blues and blues culture that could be developed into a program
243 for domestic and international tourism, and opportunities for
244 investment.

245 (c) To establish a statewide Mississippi "Blues Trail"
246 infrastructure to offer to tourists and targeted groups a
247 structured tour of Mississippi blues historical sites and
248 performance venues.



249 (d) To coordinate with the Division of Tourism of the
250 Mississippi Development Authority, the Department of Archives and
251 History, the Mississippi Department of Transportation, the
252 Mississippi Educational Television Authority, the State
253 Institutions of Higher Learning, the Center for the Study of
254 Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi, the University
255 Center for Economic Development at Mississippi Valley State
256 University, the Delta Center for Culture and Learning at Delta
257 State University, the Delta Blues Museum, the Delta Music
258 Institute, the Mississippi Arts Commission and similar
259 organizations in the sharing of resources and information in order
260 to ensure a comprehensive approach to marketing the blues and
261 blues culture in Mississippi.

262 (e) To make recommendations regarding the establishment
263 of, and budgeting for, a permanent Mississippi Office of the Blues
264 as an agency of state government with an executive director and
265 appropriate staff to carry out the marketing plan developed by the
266 commission. To the extent practical, any office shall be located
267 at an existing public or private location which is appropriate to
268 the blues or blues culture in Mississippi, with minimal cost to
269 the state.

270 (f) To coordinate the blues marketing plan with any
271 existing state historic preservation programs, in order to:

272 (i) Identify and preserve blues historic
273 properties or sites;



274 (ii) Determine the eligibility of those properties
275 or sites for listing on the National Register;

276 (iii) Prepare nominations of those properties or
277 sites for inclusion on the National Register;

278 (iv) Maintain blues historical and archaeological
279 data bases; and

280 (v) Evaluate those properties and sites for
281 eligibility for state and federal preservation incentives.

282 (g) To raise and expend grant funds to provide
283 assistance to any blues musicians in need.

284 (4) The commission shall be composed of the following
285 members:

286 (a) The Director of the Division of Tourism of the
287 Mississippi Development Authority;

288 (b) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
289 Department of Archives and History, or his designee;

290 (c) The Executive Director of the Mississippi Arts
291 Commission, or his designee;

292 (d) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
293 Educational Television Authority, or his designee;

294 (e) The Director of the Center for the Study of
295 Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi;

296 (f) Until April 10, 2008, the Director of the
297 University Center for Economic Development at Mississippi Valley



298 State University, and after April 10, 2008, a person designated by
299 the President of Mississippi Valley State University;

300 (g) The Director of the Delta Center for Culture and
301 Learning at Delta State University;

302 (h) The President of the B.B. King Museum and Delta
303 Interpretive Center;

304 (i) The State Director of the USDA Rural Development
305 Agency;

306 (j) Two (2) members of the Mississippi Senate
307 designated by the Lieutenant Governor, who shall serve on a
308 nonvoting basis;

309 (k) Two (2) members of the Mississippi House of
310 Representatives designated by the Speaker of the House, who shall
311 serve on a nonvoting basis;

312 (l) Two (2) members appointed by the Governor, who
313 shall have experience in cultural affairs or tourism development
314 in the Mississippi Delta; and

315 (m) Four (4) members appointed by the Governor from the
316 state at large, who shall have demonstrated a commitment to the
317 understanding and promotion of the blues.

318 (5) The Governor shall designate one (1) commission member
319 to serve as chairman for a term concurrent with that of the
320 Governor. The commission shall meet upon the call of the chairman
321 not later than August 1, 2004, and shall organize for business by
322 adopting internal organizational procedures necessary for



323 efficient operation of the commission, including officers, quorum
324 requirements and policies for any commission staff. Each member
325 of the commission shall designate necessary staff of his or her
326 respective agency, department, university or business entity, as
327 the case may be, to provide administrative support to assist the
328 commission in performing its duties and responsibilities. The
329 commission shall meet and conduct business at least quarterly each
330 year. Meetings of the commission shall be open to the public and
331 opportunity for public comment shall be made available.

332 (6) Members of the commission shall receive no compensation
333 for their services.

334 (7) The commission shall submit a report, including any
335 proposed legislation, to the Governor and to the Legislature
336 before the convening of the 2009 Regular Session. The report
337 shall include a comprehensive state plan for marketing the blues
338 as specifically provided above.

339 (8) All departments, boards, agencies, officers and
340 institutions of the state, and all subdivisions thereof, shall
341 cooperate with the commission in carrying out its purposes under
342 this chapter.

343 (9) Any funds or donations received by the commission shall
344 be deposited into a special fund which is created in the State
345 Treasury. The fund shall be maintained by the State Treasurer as
346 a special fund, separate and apart from the General Fund of the
347 state. Unexpended amounts remaining in the special fund at the



348 end of a fiscal year shall not lapse into the State General Fund,
349 and any interest earned or investment earnings on amounts in the
350 fund shall be deposited to the credit of the special fund.

351 Monies in the fund shall be expended by the Department of
352 Finance and Administration after receipt of requisitions submitted
353 by the appropriate person designated by the commission. Monies in
354 the special fund may be used by the commission in carrying out its
355 responsibilities under this chapter.

356 **SECTION 9.** Section 39-32-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
357 brought forward as follows:

358 39-32-1. (1) There is hereby created the Mississippi
359 Country and Western Music Commission, hereinafter referred to as
360 the "commission." The commission may accept and expend grants and
361 private donations from any source, including federal, state,
362 public and private entities, to assist it to carry out its
363 functions.

364 (2) For purposes of this chapter, the term "country and
365 western music" shall mean country and western, blue grass and
366 related music genre and the culture that created it.

367 (3) The powers, functions and duties of the commission shall
368 include, but not be limited to, the following:

369 (a) To study, deliberate and report to the Governor and
370 the Legislature on or before January 1, 2012, on the best method
371 to market and foster an appreciation of country and western music,
372 to include tourism, academic study and country and western music



373 archives, country and western music historical preservation,
374 country and western music cultural education and the support of
375 performing artists. Such marketing plan shall be designed to
376 attract tourists, conferences, music performances, filmmakers and
377 others for the purpose of economic development of all geographic
378 areas of the state through the promotion of country and western
379 music and the heritage and culture that produced such, and to
380 analyze the tourism potential of the country and western music for
381 Mississippi.

382 (b) To make an inventory of country and western music
383 "assets" that make up country and western music and its culture
384 that could be developed into a program for domestic and
385 international tourism, and opportunities for investment.

386 (c) Coordination with the Division of Tourism of the
387 Mississippi Development Authority, the Department of Archives and
388 History, the Mississippi Department of Transportation, the
389 Mississippi Educational Television Authority, the state
390 institutions of higher learning, the Center for the Study of
391 Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi, the Mississippi
392 Arts Commission, and similar organizations to share resources and
393 information in order to ensure a comprehensive approach to
394 marketing the country and western music culture in Mississippi.

395 (d) To make recommendations regarding the establishment
396 of, and budgeting for, a permanent Mississippi office of country
397 and western music as an agency of state government with an



398 executive director and appropriate staff to carry out the
399 marketing plan developed by the commission. To the extent
400 practical, any office shall be located at an existing public or
401 private location which is appropriate to the country and western
402 music culture in Mississippi, with minimal cost to the state.

403 (e) Coordination of the country and western music
404 marketing plan with any existing state historic preservation
405 programs, in order to:

406 (i) Identify and preserve country and western
407 music historic properties;

408 (ii) Determine the eligibility of such properties
409 for listing on the National Register;

410 (iii) Prepare nominations of such sites for
411 inclusion on the National Register;

412 (iv) Maintenance of country and western music
413 historical and archaeological data bases; and

414 (v) Evaluation of such sites for eligibility for
415 state and federal preservation incentives.

416 (f) To implement and continue the development and
417 creation of the Mississippi Country Music Trail as outlined in
418 Section 39-33-1, provide oversight of the trail and its
419 infrastructure, and explore funding opportunities to support
420 continued implementation.

421 (4) The commission shall be composed of the following
422 members:



423 (a) The Director of the Division of Tourism of the
424 Mississippi Development Authority;

425 (b) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
426 Department of Archives and History, or his designee;

427 (c) The Executive Director of the Mississippi Arts
428 Commission, or his designee;

429 (d) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
430 Educational Television Authority, or his designee;

431 (e) The Chairman of the Board of the Southern Arts and
432 Entertainment Center, or his designee;

433 (f) The Director of the Center for the Study of
434 Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi;

435 (g) The State Director of the USDA Rural Development
436 Agency;

437 (h) Two (2) members of the Mississippi Senate
438 designated by the Lieutenant Governor, who shall serve on a
439 nonvoting basis;

440 (i) Two (2) members of the Mississippi House of
441 Representatives designated by the Speaker of the House, who shall
442 serve on a nonvoting basis;

443 (j) Two (2) members appointed by the Governor, who
444 shall have experience in cultural affairs or tourism development
445 in East Central Mississippi; and



446 (k) Four (4) members appointed by the Governor from the
447 state at large, who shall have demonstrated a commitment to the
448 understanding and promotion of country and western music.

449 (5) The Governor shall designate one (1) commission member
450 to serve as chairman for a term concurrent with that of the
451 Governor. The commission shall meet upon the call of the chairman
452 not later than July 1, 2011, and shall organize for business by
453 adopting internal organizational procedures necessary for
454 efficient operation of the commission, including officers, quorum
455 requirements and policies for any commission staff. Each member
456 of the commission shall designate necessary staff of their
457 departments to provide administrative support to assist the
458 commission in performing its duties and responsibilities. The
459 commission shall meet and conduct business at least quarterly.
460 Meetings of the commission shall be open to the public and
461 opportunity for public comment shall be made available.

462 (6) Members of the commission shall receive no compensation
463 for their services.

464 (7) The commission shall submit a report, including any
465 proposed legislation, to the Governor and to the Legislature
466 before the convening of the 2012 Regular Session. The report
467 shall include a comprehensive state plan for marketing country and
468 western music history as specifically provided above.

469 (8) All departments, boards, agencies, officers and
470 institutions of the state and all subdivisions thereof shall



471 cooperate with the commission in carrying out its purposes under
472 this chapter.

473 (9) Any funds or donations received by the commission shall
474 be deposited into a special fund which is hereby created in the
475 State Treasury, and disbursement therefrom shall be made upon
476 warrants by the Department of Finance and Administration after
477 receipt of requisitions submitted by the appropriate person
478 designated by the commission. Monies in the special fund may be
479 used by the commission in carrying out its responsibilities under
480 this chapter.

481 **SECTION 10.** Section 39-33-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
482 brought forward as follows:

483 39-33-1. The Division of Tourism of the Mississippi
484 Development Authority is authorized and directed to do the
485 following:

486 (a) To make an inventory of country music "assets" that
487 make up the country music culture that could be developed into a
488 program for domestic and international tourism, and opportunities
489 for investment.

490 (b) To establish a statewide Mississippi "Country Music
491 Trail" infrastructure to offer to tourists and target groups a
492 structured tour of Mississippi country music historical sites and
493 performance venues.

494 (c) To designate specific sites for the erection of
495 appropriate "Mississippi Country Music Trail" markers to offer to



496 tourists and targeted groups a structured tour of Mississippi
497 country music historical sites and performance venues. The
498 division shall be authorized to purchase appropriate Mississippi
499 Country Music Trail markers from any of its available funds. The
500 texts for the Mississippi Country Music Trail markers shall be
501 approved by the division. The Mississippi Department of
502 Transportation shall cooperate with the division by erecting and
503 maintaining the markers that have been approved by the division.

504 (d) To coordinate the Mississippi Country Music Trail
505 program with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History,
506 the Mississippi Department of Transportation, the Mississippi
507 Educational Television Authority, the Board of Trustees of State
508 Institutions of Higher Learning, the Jimmie Rogers Museum, the
509 Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of
510 Mississippi, the Delta Center for Culture and Learning at Delta
511 State University, the Mississippi Arts Commission and similar
512 organizations to share resources and information in order to
513 ensure a comprehensive approach to marketing the country music and
514 country music culture in Mississippi.

515 (e) To coordinate the Mississippi Country Music Trail
516 marketing plan with any existing state historic preservation
517 program, in order to identify and preserve country music historic
518 properties, and determine the eligibility of such properties for
519 listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and prepare
520 nominations of such sites.



521 **SECTION 11.** Section 57-11-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
522 amended as follows:

523 57-11-19. The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries
524 and Parks, the Mississippi Arts Commission, the Mississippi
525 Department of Education, the Department of Human Services, the
526 Mississippi Extension Service, the Mississippi Department of
527 Agriculture and Commerce, the Mississippi * * *~~Department of~~
528 ~~Economic and Community Development~~ Development Authority, and the
529 Mississippi Fair Commission may cooperate with the marketing
530 council in carrying out the purposes of Sections 57-11-15 through
531 57-11-21.

532 **SECTION 12.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
533 and after July 1, 2017.

