

SENATE, No. 521

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Requires NJ State Council on Arts to establish “Artist District” designation and select certain municipalities or areas within municipalities for such designation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning the establishment of an “Artist District”
2 designation and supplementing P.L.1996, c.214 (C.52:16A-25 et
3 seq.).
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
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8 1. a. In addition to the powers and responsibilities provided
9 under any other law, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts shall
10 establish an “Artist District” designation for a municipality or an
11 area within a municipality.

12 b. The council shall establish criteria required for a
13 municipality or area within a municipality to be designated by the
14 council as an Artist District, including the minimum number of art
15 related services and venues, such as businesses, galleries, museums,
16 organizations, performance halls, studios, theaters, or other
17 facilities, that must be located in the municipality or the area of the
18 municipality. An Artist District may also constitute a concentration
19 of certain types of art, such as dance, film, literature or writing,
20 music, or performing or visual arts, or types of services and venues.
21 The council shall designate no more than 25 municipalities or areas
22 within municipalities as an Artist District.

23 c. A municipality may apply to the council for designation as
24 an Artist District or for designation of an area within the
25 municipality as an Artist District. A municipality shall apply to the
26 council for the designation on a standard form created by the
27 council and made available on the council’s Internet site.

28 d. After receipt of an application for designation as an Artist
29 District, the council shall, within 60 calendar days, review and
30 approve, approve with conditions, or reject the application.

31 e. The council shall, in consultation with the Division of Travel
32 and Tourism, adopt guidance or standards for an Artist District to
33 advertise, market, or promote itself as a destination for artists and
34 visitors. An Artist District may advertise or otherwise use its
35 designation in accordance with the guidance or standards.
36

37 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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40 STATEMENT
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42 This bill would require the New Jersey State Council on the Arts to
43 establish an “Artist District” designation for municipalities or areas
44 within municipalities, to establish criteria for the designation, and to
45 work with the Division of Travel and Tourism to promote any Artist
46 District as a destination for artists and visitors.

1 A municipality which has been designated as an Artist District
2 would have a unique opportunity to market its creative, diverse,
3 entertaining, and other notable services and venues.

4 The council would establish criteria required for a municipality or
5 area within a municipality to be designated by the council as an Artist
6 District, including the minimum number of art related services and
7 venues, such as businesses, galleries, museums, organizations
8 performance halls, studios, theaters, or other facilities, that must be
9 located in the municipality or the area within the municipality. An
10 Artist District may also constitute a concentration of certain types of
11 art, such as dance, literature or writing, film, music, or performing or
12 visual arts, or types of services and venues.

13 The council would designate no more than 25 municipalities or
14 areas within municipalities as an Artist District. The council would,
15 within 60 calendar days, review and approve, approve with conditions,
16 or reject an application for designation as an Artist District.

17 Further, the council would, in consultation with the Division of
18 Travel and Tourism, adopt guidance or standards for an Artist District
19 to advertise, market, or promote itself as a destination for artists and
20 visitors. An Artist District may advertise or otherwise use its
21 designation in accordance with the guidance or standards.