

Regular Session, 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 132

BY SENATOR MORRELL

LEGIS POWERS/FUNCTIONS. Establishes and provides for the Entertainment Industry Development Advisory Commission.

A RESOLUTION

To establish and provide for the Entertainment Industry Development Advisory Commission to review the state's entertainment incentive laws for the film, music, digital media, and live performance industries and to make recommendations for policy and legislative changes on or before February 1, 2015, that will assist in reducing industry dependence on tax credits and incentivize the development of an indigenous self-supporting industry.

WHEREAS, Louisiana offers incentives for the purposes of attracting film, music, digital media, and live performance production; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 47:6007 provides relative to the motion picture tax credit program with the program's primary objective to encourage the development of a strong capital and infrastructure base for motion picture production in order to achieve an independent self-supporting industry; and

WHEREAS, there continues to be discussions on how to control the cost of the motion picture tax credit in the last weeks of the 2013 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature; and

WHEREAS, over the last six years the state's biannual economic impact studies on the entertainment industry indicate a continuing decline in economic impact to the state; and

1           WHEREAS, many Louisiana businesses and individuals have invested in the state's  
2 entertainment industry, and the industry provides thousands of jobs for Louisiana citizens;  
3 and

4           WHEREAS, particularly in tight fiscal times, it is important to reevaluate  
5 periodically tax credits programs to ensure that tax revenues lost through the credits are  
6 offset by other taxes generated by economic activity associated with the businesses to whom  
7 the tax credits were originally issued; and

8           WHEREAS, a determination needs to be made on whether the current entertainment  
9 incentive program laws are providing the best opportunity to develop a sustainable  
10 entertainment industry.

11           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
12 does hereby establish and provide for the Entertainment Industry Development Advisory  
13 Commission to review the state's entertainment incentive laws for the film, music, digital  
14 media, and live performance industries and to make recommendations for policy and  
15 legislative changes on or before February 1, 2015, that will assist in reducing industry  
16 dependence on tax credits and incentivize the development of an indigenous self-supporting  
17 industry.

18           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Entertainment Industry Development  
19 Advisory Commission shall consist of the following members:

- 20           (1) The director of the office of Entertainment Industry Development.
- 21           (2) The secretary of the Department of Economic Development, or his designee.
- 22           (3) The secretary of the Department of Revenue, or his designee.
- 23           (4) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, or his  
24 designee.
- 25           (5) The chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, or his designee.
- 26           (6) An economist with the Legislative Fiscal Office.
- 27           (7) The president of the Senate, or his designee.
- 28           (8) The speaker of the House of Representatives, or his designee.
- 29           (9) Two representatives of the entertainment business community selected from a  
30 list provided by the Louisiana Film and Entertainment Association.

1           (10) Two representatives of the state's music business community selected from a  
2 list provided by the Louisiana Chapter of the National Association of Recording Arts and  
3 Sciences.

4           (11) A representative of the banking or investment community with experience in  
5 film financing, start-up investment or intellectual property selected from a list provided by  
6 the Louisiana Bankers Association.

7           (12) A representative from a Louisiana university which offers degreed programs  
8 in at least two of the following areas: film, music business, animation, video game  
9 development, or dramatic arts.

10          (13) A representative from a Louisiana community or technical college which offers  
11 programs in at least two of the following areas: film, music business, animation, video game  
12 development, or dramatic arts.

13          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Entertainment Industry Development  
14 Advisory Commission shall have its first meeting on or before November 4, 2013, which  
15 meeting shall be called by the chairman of the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal  
16 Affairs, or his designee, and shall meet bimonthly thereafter in the city of Baton Rouge.

17          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall report to the Senate with  
18 recommendations for legislative and policy changes that will reduce the industry's long-term  
19 dependence on tax credits and incentivize the development of a self-supporting  
20 entertainment industry on or before February 1, 2015.

21          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
22 director of the office of Entertainment Industry Development, the secretary of the  
23 Department of Economic Development, the secretary of the Department of Revenue, the  
24 chairman of the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, the chairman of the  
25 House Committee on Ways and Means, the Legislative Fiscal Office, the president of the  
26 Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the Louisiana Film and Entertainment  
27 Association, the National Association of Recording Arts and Sciences, the Louisiana  
28 Bankers Association, and the Board of Regents.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cathy R. Wells.

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DIGEST

Morrell

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