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**HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS**

2023 Regular Session

Substitute for Original House Bill No. 482 by Representative Echols as proposed by the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

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**This document reflects the content of a substitute bill but is not in a bill form; page numbers in this document DO NOT correspond to page numbers in the substitute bill itself.**

To enact R.S. 36:209(D)(4) and Part V of Chapter 9 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 56:1950.21 through 1950.26, relative to the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism; to provide for the Louisiana Music Trail; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Part V of Chapter 9 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 56:1950.21 through 1950.23, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

PART V. LOUISIANA MUSIC TRAIL

§1950.21. Purpose

The purpose of the Louisiana Music Trail is to commemorate and to promote awareness and encourage enjoyment of the stories, biographies, and points of interest in blues, rock and roll, country, zydeco, and gospel throughout northeast Louisiana.

§1950.22. Louisiana Music Trail

A.(1) The Louisiana Music Trail means U.S. Highway 425 from Mer Rouge, in Morehouse Parish, to its intersection with U.S. Highway 65 in Concordia Parish and U.S. Highway 65 from its intersection with U.S. Highway 425 to the state border with Arkansas in East Carroll Parish.

(2) The U.S. Highway 425 portion of the Louisiana Music Trail is hereby designated as the Jazz 'n' Blues Highway and the U.S. Highway 65 portion of the Louisiana Music Trail is hereby designated as the Cajun 'n' Zydeco Highway.

B. The Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism may establish a process and criteria for adding routes to the Louisiana Music Trail. Any parish or municipality may request that a specified segment of a state or U.S. highway be included in the trail.

§1950.23. Louisiana Music Trail Commission; creation; membership

A. There is hereby created the Louisiana Music Trail Commission within the office of cultural development.

B. The commission shall be composed of seven members as follows:

(1) The assistant secretary of the office of cultural development or his designee.

(2) The director of byways and trails, office of tourism, or his designee.

(3) The governor shall appoint five members who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. Such members shall be residents of five different parishes through which the Louisiana Music Trail passes. Two shall have a bachelor's degree or professional experience in the field of music and three shall have a bachelor's degree or professional experience in art, history, or tourism.

(4) Members of the commission shall serve without compensation for their service but may receive expense reimbursement.

C.(1) The office of cultural development shall provide a meeting space and staffing for the commission.

(2) The Louisiana Music Trail Commission shall meet as often as necessary to perform its duties under this Part but not less than quarterly.

(3) The assistant secretary of the office of cultural development of his designee shall call the first meeting of the commission, and the commission shall elect a chairman at its first meeting.

(4) The commission shall adopt bylaws for the governance of its affairs.

(5) Four members of the commission constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

§1950.24. Duties of the commission; Louisiana Music Trail programs

A. The Louisiana Music Trail Commission shall establish and administer the following Louisiana Music Trail programs:

(1) A tourism program based on music projects that focus on highlighting music stories and related dynamics on the designated music highways.

(2) A signage program that captures the stories, biographies, and points of interest in blues, rock and roll, jazz, rockabilly, soul, hip hop, opera, country, zydeco, and gospel music throughout the region of Louisiana.

B. The office of cultural development and the byways and trails director shall provide assistance to the commission in establishing and administering the programs.

C. The commission shall maintain information about federal and state grant opportunities to encourage cities and parishes to develop exhibits related to the musical heritage of the city or parish.

D. The office of cultural development shall promulgates rules necessary to implement the Louisiana Music Trail programs created under this Section, including rules that provide for the payment of qualified expenses for a music project.

E. The commission may accept, receive, and use grants, monies, equipment, material, services, and immovable and movable property donated, bequeathed, or devised for any purpose relating to the activities of the commission and not expressly designated for any other agency.

§1950.25 Biennial report

A. The Louisiana Music Trail Commission shall submit a report by December thirty-first of each even-numbered year to the governor and the legislature.

B. The report required by this Section shall include the following:

(1) The commission's goals for increasing the number of music projects and signage over the next biennium.

(2) The economic development opportunities the commission will focus on over the next biennium.

(3) The qualified expenses approved by the commission during the biennium for which the report is being made, including the following:

(a) The name of the person who applied for approval of qualified expenses for a music project.

(b) A description of the music project for which the qualified expenses were approved.

(c) The location of the music project for which the qualified expenses were approved.

§1950.26. Signage; official state map designation; official logo

A. The Department of Transportation and Development shall erect appropriate signs along the route of those highways or sections of highways designated in this Part, indicating that these highways or sections of highways have been designated as the Louisiana Music Trail.

B. The Department of Transportation and Development may identify all highways designated as the Louisiana Music Trail on any official state highway maps prepared and distributed by the department.

C. The Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism shall develop the official logo of the Louisiana Music Trail, and the logo shall be used as the logo to identify the routes designated as the Louisiana Music Trail. The logo shall be used on appropriate signage and official state highways maps to indicate those routes designated as the Louisiana Music Trail.

Section 2. R.S. 36:209(D)(4) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§209. Transfer of boards, commissions, departments, and agencies to Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

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D. The following agencies are hereby placed within the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and shall exercise and perform their powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 36:802:

\* \* \*

(4) The Louisiana Music Trail Commission (R.S. 56:1950.23).

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## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB Draft

2023 Regular Session

**Abstract:** Provides for a La. Music Trail.

Proposed law creates the La. Music Trail, comprised of specified U.S. highways and additional highways as approved by the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

Proposed law creates the La. Music Trail Commission, which shall establish and administer:

- (1) A tourism program based on music projects that focus on highlighting music stories and related dynamics on the designated music highways.
- (2) A signage program that captures the stories, biographies, and points of interest in blues, rock and roll, jazz, rockabilly, soul, hip hop, opera, country, zydeco, and gospel music throughout the region of Louisiana.

Proposed law provides that the office of cultural development shall promulgate rules necessary to implement the La. Music Trail programs, including rules that provide for the payment of qualified expenses for a music project. Authorizes the commission to accept, receive, and use funds, services, and other property donated, bequeathed, or devised for any purpose relating to its activities.

Proposed law requires the commission to submit a report by Dec. 31st of each even-numbered year to the governor and the legislature. Requires that the report include:

- (1) The commission's goals for increasing the number of music projects and signage over the next biennium.
- (2) The economic development opportunities the commission will focus on over the next biennium.
- (3) The qualified expenses approved by the commission during the biennium for which the report is being made.

Proposed law requires the Dept. of Transportation and Development to erect appropriate signs along the La. Music Trail and authorizes the department to identify designated highways on any official state highway maps prepared and distributed by the department. Requires the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to develop the official logo.

(Adds R.S 36:209(D)(4) and R.S. 56:1950.21-1950.26)