

SENATE FILE NO. SF0015

Cultural tourism and heritage areas.

Sponsored by: Joint Travel, Recreation, Wildlife and
Cultural Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to cultural and heritage areas; providing
2 for grants for the development, designation and promotion
3 of cultural and heritage areas; providing legislative
4 intent; providing an appropriation; and providing for an
5 effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-2-426 through 9-2-430 are created
10 to read:

11

12 **9-2-426. Short title.**

13

14 W.S. 9-2-426 through 9-2-430 shall be known and may be
15 cited as the "Wyoming Cultural and Heritage Areas Act".

16

1 **9-2-427. Legislative declaration.**

2

3 (a) The legislature finds that Wyoming and its people
4 possess a unique cultural heritage. The legislature
5 further finds that there is a need to promote and enhance
6 that unique cultural heritage for the citizens of the state
7 and the nation and for future generations to understand and
8 appreciate the heritage that makes Wyoming unique among the
9 United States.

10

11 (b) It is the purpose of this act to create a
12 cultural and heritage area program to identify, enhance and
13 promote the historic, recreational, cultural, natural and
14 scenic resources of the state and to stimulate community
15 sustainability and economic development through tourism.

16

17 (c) The purpose of this act is to promote tourism and
18 nothing in this act shall be cited or employed to affect
19 land and mineral use policy, permitting or regulatory
20 decisions.

21

22 **9-2-428. Definitions.**

23

24 (a) As used in this act:

1

2 (i) "Commission" means the Wyoming parks and
3 cultural resources commission;

4

5 (ii) "Department" means the department of state
6 parks and cultural resources, or its successor;

7

8 (iii) "Cultural and heritage area" means a
9 developed area of public and private uses that:

10

11 (A) Ranges in size from a portion of a
12 county or municipality to a regional area with a special
13 coherence;

14

15 (B) Is distinguished by physical and
16 cultural resources which have played a vital role in the
17 history and development of a community or the state and
18 contribute to the public's understanding of this heritage
19 through interpretive, educational and recreational use; and

20

21 (C) Is composed of contiguous or
22 noncontiguous areas.

23

1 (iv) "Lead organization" means nonprofit and
2 governmental cultural, historical and arts organizations
3 that receive grant funds from the commission pertaining to
4 cultural and heritage areas;

5

6 (v) "This act" means W.S. 9-2-426 through
7 9-2-430.

8

9 **9-2-429. Commission duties.**

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11 (a) The commission shall:

12

13 (i) Review innovative grant proposals and
14 provide grant funds in a phased process to lead
15 organizations to facilitate the purposes of this act;

16

17 (ii) Require local matching funds or other in-
18 kind contributions from grantees;

19

20 (iii) Review and monitor the expenditure of
21 monies to grantees;

22

23 (iv) Require the approval of any person who owns
24 a developed area within a cultural and heritage area that

1 may be promoted as a destination point as part of the
2 proposal;

3

4 (v) Consider other necessary matters.

5

6 **9-2-430. Department duties.**

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8 (a) The department shall:

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10 (i) Establish criteria for grant categories and
11 grant applications through rules and regulations;

12

13 (ii) Consider other necessary matters;

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15 (iii) Promulgate reasonable rules and
16 regulations in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative
17 Procedure Act to implement the provisions of this act;

18

19 (iv) Annually report to the governor, the joint
20 appropriations interim committee and the joint travel,
21 recreation, wildlife and cultural resources interim
22 committee no later than October 1 with respect to all:

23

1 (A) Federal grants, state appropriations
2 and other contributions, grants, gifts, bequests and
3 donations received and credited to the Wyoming cultural and
4 heritage areas program during the preceding fiscal year;
5 and

6
7 (B) Grants awarded by the commission to
8 cultural and heritage lead organizations.

9
10 **Section 2.** There is appropriated one million four
11 hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$1,430,000.00) from the
12 budget reserve account to the department of state parks and
13 cultural resources. This appropriation shall be for the
14 period beginning with the effective date of this act and
15 ending June 30, 2010. This appropriation shall only be
16 expended for the purpose of funding grants under and
17 administering the cultural and heritage area program.
18 Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207,
19 these funds which are unexpended, unobligated or
20 unencumbered as of June 30, 2010 shall not revert to the
21 general fund but shall be retained by the department for
22 the purposes specified in this section. This appropriation
23 shall not be included in the department's 2011-2012
24 standard biennial budget request.

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Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2009.

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(END)