

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

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. 9-2-430 through 9-2-434 are created

10 to read:

11

12 **9-2-430. Short title.**

13

1 W.S. 9-2-430 through 9-2-434 shall be known and may be
2 cited as the "Wyoming Cultural and Heritage Areas Act."

3

4 **9-2-431. Legislative declaration.**

5

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

13

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

19

20 **9-2-432. Definitions.**

21

22 (a) As used in this act:

23

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

3

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

6

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

9

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

13

14 (b) Is distinguished by physical and
15 cultural resources which have played a vital role in the
16 historic life and development of the community and
17 contribute to the public through interpretive, educational
18 and recreational use; and

19

20 (c) Is composed of contiguous or
21 noncontiguous areas.

22

1 (iv) "Lead organization" means nonprofit and
 2 governmental cultural, historical and arts organizations
 3 designated as the lead organization in submitting grants
 4 and grant proposals for cultural and heritage areas;

5

6 (v) "This act" means W.S. 9-2-430 through 9-2-
 7 434.

8

9 **9-2-433. Commission duties;**

10

11 (a) The commission shall:

12

13 (i) Review innovative program grants and grant
 14 proposals and provide grant funds in a phased process to
 15 lead organizations to facilitate designation, development
 16 and promotion of cultural and heritage areas;

17

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

20

21 (iii) Designate cultural and heritage areas;

22

1 (iv) Review and monitor the expenditure of
2 monies to grantees;

3

4 (v) Consider other necessary matters.

5

6 **9-2-434. Department duties.**

7

8 (a) The department shall:

9

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

12

13 (ii) Consider other necessary matters;

14

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 general fund to the department of state parks and cultural
13 resources. This appropriation shall be for the period
14 beginning with the effective date of this act and ending
15 June 30, 2010. This appropriation shall only be expended
16 for the purpose of funding grants under and administering
17 the cultural and heritage area program. Notwithstanding 9-
18 2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, these funds which are
19 unexpended, unobligated or unencumbered as of June 30, 2010
20 shall not revert to the general fund but shall be retained
21 by the department for the purposes specified in this
22 section. This appropriation shall not be included in the
23 department's 2011-2012 standard biennial budget request.

1

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

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4

(END)