

# FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## BILL ANALYSIS

*This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.*

**BILL #:** [CS/HB 1011](#)

**TITLE:** Duties of the Department of State

**SPONSOR(S):** LaMarca

**COMPANION BILL:** [SB 1524](#) (Grall)

**LINKED BILLS:** None

**RELATED BILLS:** None

### Committee References

[Government Operations](#)

12 Y, 4 N, As CS



[Transportation & Economic  
Development Budget](#)



[State Affairs](#)

## SUMMARY

### Effect of the Bill:

The bill revises the duties of the Department of State (DOS), affecting various functions of the Division of Corporations, Division of Library and Information Services; Division of Arts and Culture; and the Division of Historical Resources. Specifically, the bill:

- Eliminates the commission fee issued by the Governor.
- Revises certain grant procedures and criteria for each of the divisions.
- Provides that the Secretary of State (secretary) is the chief arts and culture officer of the state.
- Revises the membership criteria and duties of the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and makes the Florida Folklife Council a sub-council of the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.
- Revises the nomination and naming process for the Florida Artists Hall of Fame.
- Repeals the Florida International Archive Repository, the Florida Museum of Black History Task Force, and the Grove Advisory Council.
- Authorizes the DOS to support the establishment of certain citizen support organizations.
- Revises the membership and term limits of the members of the Historic Cemeteries Program Advisory Council and makes it a sub-council of the Florida Historical Commission.

### Fiscal or Economic Impact:

The bill may have an indeterminate fiscal impact to local and state governments.

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## ANALYSIS

### EFFECT OF THE BILL:

#### Division of Corporations

The bill eliminates the \$10 [commission fee issued by the Governor](#). The bill provides that a commission may not be issued by the Governor or attested to by the Secretary of State or bear the seal of the state until the oath of office is filed. (Multiple sections)

#### Division of Library and Information Services

##### Accreditation Body

The bill removes reference to the specific school library program accreditation body of the American Library Association and replaces it with any national library professional association. (Sections [6](#) and [8](#))

**STORAGE NAME:** h1011a.GOS

**DATE:** 4/2/2025

### Library Grants

The bill requires the Secretary of State (secretary) to identify whether [library grants](#) awarded under the Division of Library and Information Services are:

- Expended in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations; and
- Are used for activities that are not harmful to minors. (Multiple Sections)

Harmful to minors is defined as any reproduction, imitation, characterization, description, exhibition, presentation, or representation, in any manner or form, depicting sexual conduct or sexual excitement. (Multiple Sections)

Additionally, the bill requires the [State Library Council](#) to develop recommendations for providing available federal funds to public libraries. The bill also requires the secretary to submit a recommended funding list to the Legislature for consideration for Library Construction Grants. (Sections [7](#) and [9](#))

### Florida International Archive and Repository

The bill repeals the law relating to the [Florida International Archive and Repository](#) as the function provided by such repository functions as part of the Florida State Archives. (Section [11](#))

## **Division of Arts and Culture**

### Chief Arts and Culture Officer

The bill provides that the secretary is Florida's chief arts and culture officer of the state. (Section [14](#))

### Florida Council on Arts and Culture

#### *Membership*

The bill revises the membership criteria of the [Florida Council on Arts and Culture](#) by:

- Providing that the six members appointed by the Governor includes:
  - A licensed architect who has expertise in cultural facilities.
  - An enrolled member of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.
  - A professional public folklorist.
  - A university affiliated folklorist.
  - A practicing or former professional artist.
  - A retired chief executive officer of a Florida-based accredited museum.
- Providing that the remaining member appointed by the Governor and the four members appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House must be representatives of the public with demonstrated interest in and knowledge of the arts, culture, museums, folklore, and cultural heritage traditions. (Section [15](#))

The bill prohibits a member of the Florida Council on Arts and Culture from receiving financial compensation as an employee or officer of an entity that has received grant funds or an applicant for grant funding recommendations from the Division of Arts and Culture. However, this prohibition does not apply to an employee or officer of a state college or university. (Section [15](#))

#### *Duties*

The bill revises the duties the Florida Council on Arts and Culture by adding that the council must:

- Encourage the participation in and appreciation of folklife.
- Encourage arts and cultural development within communities.
- Make arts and culture grant funding recommendations for activities and programs that are not harmful to minors.
- Promote and assist with the Division of Arts and Culture programs such as the Major John Leroy Haynes Florida Veterans' History Program, the Arts and Culture recognition award program, and the apprenticeship program. (Section [15](#))

The bill removes the provision that requires the Florida Council on Arts and Culture to promote the reading, writing, and appreciation of poetry throughout the state and recommend nominees for the State Poet Laureate. (Section [15](#))

#### Florida Folklife Council

The bill makes the [Florida Folklife Council](#) a sub-council of the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and requires that the seven members of the sub-council be appointed by the secretary from the membership of the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. The bill adds that such members must, in addition to current requirements, provide cultural and traditional representation on the council. (Section [20](#))

#### Arts and Cultural Grants

##### *Arts and Cultural Grant Recommendations and Funding*

The bill revises the arts and cultural grant process by removing the review panel process. Instead of the review panels assisting the Florida Council on Arts and Culture reviewing the [arts and cultural grants](#), the secretary may appoint reviewers to assist the council in the grant application review process. Appointed reviewers must review applications and recommend to the council which grants may be awarded. Then the council must make an arts and culture grant funding recommendation list and submit it to the secretary. The secretary is granted authority to review and provide comments to the Legislature concerning the recommended applications. The secretary is required to submit the list to the Legislature for funding consideration. Arts and Cultural grants must be funded from the secretary's submitted list until all appropriated funds are depleted. (Sections [13](#) and [16](#))

The bill provides that if this bill passes before the 2025-2026 GAA is passed, then the secretary must request an updated recommended arts and culture grant funding list and the council must submit that list to the Legislature. Additionally, the council and secretary are authorized to provide a separate list for activities and programs that supporting the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. (Section [16](#))

The bill repeals the definitions for the state touring program grants and the underserved arts community assistance program grants as these are programs that are obsolete. (Section [13](#))

##### *Applicant and Grant Eligibility*

The bill adds eligibility requirements for an applicant of an arts and culture grant by requiring that such applicant must:

- Conduct activities and programs that are not harmful to minors.
- Strictly conform with all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations. (Section [16](#))

Additionally, an applicant seeking a recommendation from a reviewer may not have a substantial interest in any of its requested recommendations. (Section [16](#))

The bill revises the purposes in which the Division of Arts and Culture may award grants to include an activity or program that:

- Supplements the financial support of artistic and cultural activities and programs that, without the assistance, may otherwise be unavailable to Florida residents.
- Has substantial artistic and cultural significance and emphasizes creativity and professional excellence.
- Meets the professional standards or standards of authenticity of significant merit, regardless of origin
- Is not harmful to minors. (Section [16](#))

#### Cultural Facility Grants

The bill provides that [cultural facility grants](#) can no longer be used for acquisition of cultural facilities, only for renovation or construction. The bill provides that the secretary has authority to review and provide comments to the Legislature concerning the recommended applicants submitted by the Florida Council on Arts and Culture to ensure that state grant funds awarded are expended in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations and are used only for activities and programs that not harmful to minors. The secretary must submit the recommended list to the Legislature for funding consideration. The bill no longer allows cultural facility

projects approved and recommended by the secretary, that are not funded by the Legislature, to be retained on the project list for the following grant cycle. (Section [18](#))

The bill provides that if this bill passes before the 2025-2026 GAA is passed, then the secretary must request an updated recommended cultural facilities grant funding list and the council must then submit the list to Legislature. Additionally, the council and secretary are authorized to provide a separate list for activities and programs that support the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. (Section [18](#))

#### Florida Artists Hall of Fame

The bill provides the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and the secretary with discretion in the frequency to which such entities must nominate and name a person to the [Florida Artists Hall of Fame](#). The bill revises the maximum number of persons in which the secretary may name in any one nomination year to the Florida Artists Hall of Fame from four to three members. (Section [17](#))

#### Office of International Affairs

The bill allows the DOS to support the establishment of Citizen Support Organizations to provide assistance, funding, and promotional support for its international and intergovernmental programs. (Section [19](#))

### **Division of Historical Resources**

#### Historic Preservation Grants

The bill provides that [historic preservation grants](#) may be reviewed and commented on by the secretary to ensure that state grant funds are expended in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations and are not used for activities and programs that are harmful to minors. The secretary is required to submit the recommended lists to the Legislature for funding consideration. The bill also eliminates reference to the Historical Resources Operating Trust Fund. (Sections [21](#) and [22](#))

#### Florida Museum of Black History Task Force

The bill repeals the law relating to the [Florida Museum of Black History Task Force](#) as the task force is required to disband after the submission of their final report. (Section [23](#))

#### The Grove Advisory Council

The bill repeals [The Grove Advisory Council](#) and requires the Division of Historical Resources to continue maintaining the Grove Museum. (Section [24](#))

#### Historic Cemeteries Program

##### *Grants*

The bill provides additional guidelines for the [Historic Cemeteries Program](#) grants. Specifically, the bill provides that all grants of state funds that assist abandoned African-American cemeteries may only be awarded through applications for such assistance made to the Division of Historical Resources. Additionally, the bill provides that the Florida Historic Cemeteries Program Advisory Council must review each application for an Abandoned African-American Cemeteries Grant and submit annually to the secretary a list of all Abandoned African-American Cemeteries Grant applications that it recommends for the award of grants, arranged in order of priority. In making its evaluation and recommendations, the council must, at a minimum, consider the purpose, public benefit, location, and cost of each proposal for grant assistance. The bill provides that after the secretary receives the grant list, then he or she may review and provide comments to the Legislature on the list to ensure that state grant funds awarded are in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations and are used only for activities and programs that are not harmful to minors. After the review and editing process, the secretary is required to submit a recommended list to the Legislature for funding consideration. (Sections [25](#) and [26](#))

##### *Historic Cemeteries Program Advisory Council*

The bill makes the [Historic Cemeteries Program Advisory Council](#) a sub-council of the Florida Historical Commission and requires that at least five, but no more than nine, of its members be appointed by the Florida Historical Commission. The bill allows that the council members may also be members of the Florida Historical

Commission. The bill provides that all new appointments to the council may serve two-year terms, instead of four-year terms. The bill provides that members in place on July 1, 2025, may serve for the remainder of their terms. Additionally, the bill provides that new appointments to the council may not be made until the retirement, resignation, removal, or expiration of the terms of the initial members results in fewer than five members remaining. (Section [26](#))

### **Effective Date**

The bill is effective upon becoming law. (Section [27](#))

### **RULEMAKING:**

The bill revises the rulemaking authority for the Division of Arts and Culture relating to establishing grant eligibility to make rulemaking permissive and specifies that the division may establish rules for allowable and nonallowable costs as well economic development.

***Lawmaking is a legislative power; however, the Legislature may delegate a portion of such power to executive branch agencies to create rules that have the force of law. To exercise this delegated power, an agency must have a grant of rulemaking authority and a law to implement.***

### **FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

#### **STATE GOVERNMENT:**

The bill may have indeterminate, but likely insignificant, negative fiscal impact as the Department of State (DOS) may incur costs relating to revising their grant procedures. However, it is likely that these costs can be absorbed using existing resources. To the extent that fewer artists are named to the Florida Artists Hall of Fame, the DOS may see reduced costs.

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT:**

The bill may have an indeterminate fiscal impact on certain local governments due to the grant criteria revisions.

## **RELEVANT INFORMATION**

### **SUBJECT OVERVIEW:**

#### **Division of Corporations**

##### [Commission Fee Issued by the Governor](#)

Florida law provides that all grants and commissions must be in the name and under the authority of the State of Florida, sealed with the great seal of the state, signed by the Governor, and countersigned by the Secretary of State.<sup>1</sup> A \$10 fee is prescribed for the issuance of each commission by the Governor and attested by the Secretary of State for an elected officer or a notary public.<sup>2</sup> No commission may be issued by the Governor or attested by the Secretary of State or bear the seal of the state until the fee is paid.<sup>3</sup> All fees must be paid by the Secretary of State into the State Treasury and must be used for such purposes as the Legislature may determine.<sup>4</sup>

Every commission issued by the Governor must be recorded in the office of the Secretary of State in a book of commissions and an index made thereof, and the oath of office of the person named in said commission must be endorsed on said commission.<sup>5</sup>

#### **Division of Library and Information Services**

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<sup>1</sup> S. [113.051, F.S.](#)

<sup>2</sup> S. [113.01, F.S.](#)

<sup>3</sup> S. [113.02, F.S.](#)

<sup>4</sup> S. [113.03, F.S.](#)

<sup>5</sup> S. [113.06, F.S.](#)

## Accreditation Body

Currently, the State Librarian and certain library administration heads are required to take a library school program accredited by the American Library Association.<sup>6</sup>

## Library Grants

The Division of Library and Information Services (division) within the Department of State (DOS) administers the following grants that are subject to final approval by the Secretary of State (secretary):<sup>7</sup>

- State Aid to Libraries Grants (Operating, Equalization, and Multicounty): The grants are subject to legislative appropriation and generally are designed to assist local governments in maintaining and developing equal access to free public library service to all residents; coordinating library service; and providing consistent programs and operation of library service throughout a jurisdiction. All grant programs have similar requirements, except that the equalization grants are made available to those local entities that have limited local tax resources and the multicounty library grants are made available to counties that join together to provide library services.<sup>8</sup> More than \$17 million was appropriated for these grants in the 2024-2025 fiscal year General Appropriation Act (GAA).<sup>9</sup>
- Library Construction Grants: These grants are awarded to local and county governments for the construction of public libraries on a matching basis. This includes the construction of new buildings and the acquisition, expansion or remodeling of existing buildings to be used for public library service. All eligible applications for library construction grants are evaluated and ranked by the division and submitted to the secretary.<sup>10</sup> There were no library construction grant funds appropriated in the 2024-2025 fiscal year GAA.<sup>11</sup>
- Library Cooperative Grants: These grants are awarded to an administrative unit of a library cooperative for the purpose of sharing library sources, such as technology resources and maintaining the statewide database of library materials.<sup>12</sup> In the 2024-2025 fiscal year GAA, \$2 million was appropriated for library cooperative grants.<sup>13</sup>

## State Library Council

The State Library Council advises and assists the Division of Library and Information Services with planning, policy, and priorities related to the development of statewide information services. The council consists of nine members who are appointed by the secretary.<sup>14</sup>

## Florida International Archive and Repository

Current law creates the Florida International Archive and Repository within the DOS for the preservation of public records, manuscripts, international judgments involving disputes between domestic and foreign businesses, and all other public matters that the DOS or the Florida Council of International Development deems relevant to international issues.<sup>15</sup> The Florida International Archive and Repository essentially functions as part of the Florida State Archives. The Florida State Archives preserves and provides public access to public records, manuscripts, and other archival material that have been determined by the division to have sufficient historical or other value to warrant their continued preservation.<sup>16</sup>

## **Division of Arts and Culture**

### Chief Arts and Culture Officer

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<sup>6</sup> Ss. [257.031\(1\)](#) and [257.17\(2\)\(a\)](#), F.S.

<sup>7</sup> R. 1B-2.011, F.A.C.

<sup>8</sup> DOS, [State Aid to Libraries Grant Guidelines](#) (last visited Mar. 11, 2025).

<sup>9</sup> [Ch. 2024-231, L.OF.](#)

<sup>10</sup> DOS, [Public Library Construction Grants](#) (last visited Mar. 11, 2025).

<sup>11</sup> [Ch. 2024-231, L.OF.](#)

<sup>12</sup> S. [257.42](#), F.S.; see DOS, [Library Cooperative Grant Guidelines](#) (last visited Mar. 11, 2025).

<sup>13</sup> [Ch. 2024-231, L.OF.](#)

<sup>14</sup> S. [257.02\(a\)](#), F.S.

<sup>15</sup> S. [257.34\(1\)](#), F.S.

<sup>16</sup> S. [257.35\(1\)](#), F.S.; see also DOS, [State Archives of Florida](#) (last visited Mar. 11, 2025).



Currently, the secretary is the chief cultural officer of the state.<sup>17</sup>

## [Florida Council on Arts and Culture](#)

### *Membership*

The Florida Council on Arts and Culture has 15 members with:

- Seven members appointed by the Governor.
- Four members appointed by the President of the Senate.
- Four members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.<sup>18</sup>

The appointments are made with consultation of the secretary and are required to recognize the need for geographical representation. Additionally, it is preferred that such appointed members have a substantial history of community service in the performing or visual arts; or in the areas of science, history or children's museums. Such performing and visual arts may include theater, dance, folk arts, music, architecture, photography, literature, and media arts. In addition, current law provides that it is desirable that members have successfully served on boards of cultural institutions such as museums and performing arts centers or are recognized as patrons of the arts.<sup>19</sup>

### *Duties*

Current law requires that the Florida Council on Arts and Culture perform the following duties:

- Advocate for arts and culture by encouraging the study and presentation of arts and cultural activities that are of public interest and encourage participation in such activities throughout the state.
- Advise the secretary in matters pertaining to arts and cultural programs and grants administered by the Division of Arts and Culture.
- Encourage the participation in and appreciation of arts and culture to meet the needs and aspirations of persons in all parts of the state.
- Encourage public interest in the state's cultural heritage and expand its cultural resources.
- Encourage and assist freedom of artistic expression that is essential for the well-being of the arts.
- Advise the secretary in matters concerning the awarding of grants for arts and culture as authorized.
- Promote the reading, writing, and appreciation of poetry throughout the state and accept nominations and recommend nominees for appointment as the State Poet Laureate.
- Review applications for grants for the acquisition, renovation, or construction of cultural facilities and recommend a priority for the receipt of such grants.<sup>20</sup>

## [Florida Folklife Council](#)

The Florida Folklife Council has seven members appointed by the secretary<sup>21</sup> and advises and assists the Division of Arts and Culture and the state folklorist with respect to folk arts, folklife, and the Florida Folklife Programs.<sup>22</sup>

## [Arts and Cultural Grants](#)

### *Arts and Cultural Grant Recommendations and Funding*

Current law allows the secretary to appoint review panels consisting of members from various art and cultural disciplines and programs to assist the Florida Council on Arts and Culture in the grant review process for arts and culture grants. Each panel must consist of practicing artists or other professionals actively involved in the specific discipline or program for which the panel has been appointed. Each panel must review and score grant applications and recommend to the Florida Council on Arts and Culture the applicants to which grants should be awarded.<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> S. [265.284\(1\), F.S.](#)

<sup>18</sup> S. [265.285\(1\)\(a\), F.S.](#)

<sup>19</sup> *Id.*

<sup>20</sup> S. [265.285\(2\), F.S.](#)

<sup>21</sup> S. [265.803\(1\)\(a\), F.S.](#)

<sup>22</sup> S. [265.803\(2\), F.S.](#)

<sup>23</sup> S. [265.286\(1\), F.S.](#)

After the Florida Council on Arts and Culture reviews the lists of eligible applicants submitted by each review panel, it must develop two lists, one of which must consist of eligible applicants for general program support funding and one of which must consist of eligible applicants for specific cultural project funding, and submit the lists to the secretary. The secretary must review the council's recommendations and include the lists of approved applicants in the DOS's legislative budget request submitted to the Legislature.<sup>24</sup> Current law provides that project grants must be funded from the secretary's approved list by score until all appropriated funds are depleted. If specific project grant funds are returned to the Division of Arts and Culture, it must award such funds to the next grant applicant on the secretary's list of approved applicants.<sup>25</sup>

### *Applicant and Grant Eligibility*

Current law provides that eligible grantees must be:

- A nonprofit, tax-exempt Florida corporation; or
- A local or state governmental entity, school district, community college, college, university, agency of state government, or artist engaged in or concerned with arts and cultural activities.<sup>26</sup>

Arts and culture grants may only be awarded for the following purposes:

- To supplement the financial support of artistic and cultural activities and programs that, without the assistance, may otherwise be unavailable to Florida residents.
- To support activities and programs that have substantial artistic and cultural significance and emphasize creativity and professional excellence.
- To support activities and programs that meet the professional standards or standards of authenticity of significant merit, regardless of origin.<sup>27</sup>

The Division of Arts and Culture is authorized by law to establish rules relating to the eligibility criteria for the awarding of arts and culture grants, which may include:

- Application requirements.
- Program quality.
- Artistic quality.
- Creativity.
- Potential public exposure and benefit.
- The ability to properly administer grant funds.
- Professional excellence.
- Fiscal stability, state or regional impact.
- Matching requirements.
- Other requirements.<sup>28</sup>

### Cultural Facility Grants

Cultural Facility Grants provide funds to counties, municipalities, and qualifying nonprofit corporations for the acquisition, renovation or construction of cultural facilities.<sup>29</sup> The Florida Council on Arts and Culture reviews each application and submits an annual priority list to the secretary. Grants are subject to the Legislature's appropriation.<sup>30</sup> There were no funds appropriated for such program in the 2024-2025 fiscal year GAA.<sup>31</sup>

### Florida Artists Hall of Fame

The Florida Artists Hall of Fame honors those Floridians, living or dead, who have made significant contributions to the arts in the state, either as performing artists, or practicing artists in individual disciplines.<sup>32</sup> The Florida Council

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<sup>24</sup> S. [265.286\(3\), F.S.](#)

<sup>25</sup> S. [265.286\(4\), F.S.](#)

<sup>26</sup> S. [265.286\(8\), F.S.](#)

<sup>27</sup> S. [265.286\(7\), F.S.](#)

<sup>28</sup> S. [265.286\(6\)\(a\), F.S.](#)

<sup>29</sup> S. [265.701\(1\), F.S.](#)

<sup>30</sup> S. [265.701\(3\), F.S.](#)

<sup>31</sup> [2024-231, L.O.F.](#)

<sup>32</sup> S. [265.2865\(1\), F.S.](#); see also DOS, [Florida Artists Hall of Fame](#) (last visited Mar. 13, 2025)



on Arts and Culture accepts nominations annually and sends recommendations to the secretary.<sup>33</sup> The secretary is then required to name no more than four members in any one year.<sup>34</sup>

### Office of International Affairs

The secretary serves as Florida's State Protocol Officer<sup>35</sup> and oversees the Office of International Affairs within the Division of Arts and Culture. The Office of International Affairs facilitates consular relations between the state and all foreign governments doing business in Florida. The Office of International Affairs works with the Department of Commerce and Select Florida, Inc. to act as an intermediary between Florida businesses and performing musical, cultural, and artistic organizations to coordinate joint activities. Such activities include encouraging business and industry to sponsor cultural events and coordinating travel schedules of cultural performance groups and international trade missions.<sup>36</sup> The secretary enlists the Florida International Affairs Foundation, a citizen support organization (CSO), to supplement the programs and services of the office.<sup>37</sup>

Current law allows the Division of Arts and Culture to support the establishment of CSOs<sup>38</sup> to provide assistance, funding, and promotional support for the cultural, arts, historical, and museum programs of the division.<sup>39</sup>

## **Division of Historical Resources**

### Historic Preservation Grants

Historic Preservation grants, administered by the Division of Historical Resources, provide funds for projects relating to the identification, acquisition, protection, preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, or construction of historic sites and properties, or Florida history, or the planning of such activities.<sup>40</sup> Grants funds that are intended to be used to assist in the preservation of historic properties must be made from the Historical Resources Operating Trust Fund and may be awarded only pursuant to applications for such assistance made to the division.<sup>41</sup>

There are two types of Historic Preservation Grants:<sup>42</sup>

- Small matching grants: Reviewed by a grant panel<sup>43</sup> that is appointed by the secretary and chaired by the Florida Historical Commission.<sup>44</sup> The grant panel provides the secretary with a ranked list. The secretary submits such list to the Legislature.<sup>45</sup> In the most recent GAA, more than \$2.9 million was appropriated for the small matching grants.<sup>46</sup>
- Special category grants: Reviewed by the Florida Historical Commission who submits a ranked list to the secretary. The secretary submits the list to the Legislature.<sup>47</sup> In the most recent GAA, more than \$8.4 million was appropriated for the special category grants.<sup>48</sup>

### Florida Historical Commission

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<sup>33</sup> S. [265.2865\(3\), F.S.](#)

<sup>34</sup> S. [265.2865\(4\), F.S.](#)

<sup>35</sup> S. [15.01\(1\), F.S.](#)

<sup>36</sup> DOS, [Office of International Affairs](#) (last visited Mar. 13, 2025).

<sup>37</sup> DOS, [Florida International Affairs Foundation](#) (last visited Mar. 13, 2025).

<sup>38</sup> S. [265.703\(1\), F.S.](#), defines a CSO as an organization that is a Florida corporation not for profit registered in the State of Florida and is organized and operated to conduct programs and activities; raise funds; request and receive grants, gifts, and bequests of money; acquire, receive, hold, invest, and administer, in its own name, securities, funds, objects of value, or other property, real or personal; and make expenditures to or for the direct or indirect benefit of the division of arts and culture or individual program units of such division.

<sup>39</sup> S. [265.703\(1\), F.S.](#)

<sup>40</sup> S. [267.0617\(2\), F.S.](#)

<sup>41</sup> S. [267.0617\(3\), F.S.](#)

<sup>42</sup> R. 1A-39.001, F.A.C.

<sup>43</sup> DOS, [Small Matching Grant Guidelines](#) (last visited Mar. 13, 2025).

<sup>44</sup> S. [267.0617\(3\), F.S.](#)

<sup>45</sup> DOS, [Small Matching Grant Guidelines](#) (last visited Mar. 13, 2025).

<sup>46</sup> [Ch. 2024-231, L.O.F](#)

<sup>47</sup> DOS, [Special Category Grant Guidelines](#) (last visited Mar. 13, 2025).

<sup>48</sup> [Ch. 2024-231, L.O.F](#)

The Florida Historical Commission, is composed of 11 members,<sup>49</sup> and serves as an advisory body to the director of the Division of Historical Resources. The commission advises the division on:

- Establishing priorities for the identification, acquisition, protection, and preservation of historic and archaeological sites and properties.
- Establishing criteria for use in assessing the significance of historic and archaeological sites and properties.
- Evaluating proposals for awards of special category historic preservation grants.<sup>50</sup>

#### [Florida Museum of Black History Task Force](#)

In 2023, the Florida Museum of Black History Task Force was created to provide recommendations to the Division of Historical Resources for the planning, construction, operation, and administration of a Florida Museum of Black History.<sup>51</sup> The task force submitted its required report<sup>52</sup> detailing its recommendations, as required, before the July 1, 2024, deadline. Pursuant to law after such report is submitted, the task force is required to disband.<sup>53</sup>

#### [The Grove Advisory Council](#)

The Grove Advisory Council, which is composed of eight members,<sup>54</sup> advises the Division of Historical Resources on the operation, maintenance, preservation, and protection of the Call-Collins House, commonly known as “The Grove.”<sup>55</sup> The Grove is located in Tallahassee, Florida, and emphasizes the lives and accomplishments of the Grove’s first owner, Richard Keith Call, Florida’s last territorial Governor, and LeRoy Collins, Florida’s 33rd Governor.<sup>56</sup>

#### [Historic Cemeteries Program](#)

##### *Grants*

The Division of Historical Resources administers the Abandoned African-American Cemeteries grant program. The purpose of these grants are to provide funding to assist efforts to protect and preserve abandoned African-American cemeteries in Florida.<sup>57</sup> The grants are subject to legislative appropriation and are provided to the following entities for the following specified purposes:

- Research institutions, colleges and universities, and qualified nonprofit organizations, for the purpose of conducting genealogical and historical research necessary to identify and contact the relatives and descendants of persons buried in abandoned African-American cemeteries.
- Local governments and qualified nonprofit organizations, for the purposes of repairing, restoring, and maintaining abandoned African-American cemeteries.<sup>58</sup>

In the most recent GAA, the grant program was able to use the unexpended balance of funds appropriated in the prior year.<sup>59</sup>

#### [Historic Cemeteries Program Advisory Council](#)

The Historic Cemeteries Program Advisory Council, consists of nine members appointed by the secretary after considering the recommendations of the director of the Division of Historical Resources. The council must be composed of an inclusive group of members who are regionally distributed and representative of communities throughout this state. Additionally, members must serve four-year terms.<sup>60</sup> The council must provide guidance and recommendations to the division regarding the duties and responsibilities of the Historic Cemeteries Program.<sup>61</sup>

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<sup>49</sup> S. [267.0612\(1\), F.S.](#)

<sup>50</sup> S. [267.0612\(6\), F.S.](#)

<sup>51</sup> S. [267.0722\(1\), F.S.](#)

<sup>52</sup> DOS, [Florida Museum of Black History Task Force Final Report](#) (last visited Mar. 13, 2025).

<sup>53</sup> S. [267.0722\(6\), F.S.](#)

<sup>54</sup> S. [267.075\(3\)\(a\), F.S.](#)

<sup>55</sup> S. [267.075\(2\), F.S.](#)

<sup>56</sup> S. [267.075\(1\), F.S.](#)

<sup>57</sup> R. 1A-39.001, F.A.C.

<sup>58</sup> S. [267.21\(2\), F.S.](#)

<sup>59</sup> [Ch. 2024-231, L.O.F](#)

<sup>60</sup> S. [267.22\(1\), F.S.](#)

<sup>61</sup> S. [267.22\(2\), F.S.](#)

## BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
<a href="#">Government Operations Subcommittee</a>	12 Y, 4 N, As CS	4/1/2025	Toliver	Walker
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Removed the ability for the Secretary to edit certain grant lists and instead allows the Secretary to review and provide comments to the Legislature on the grant lists.</li><li>• Allows the secretary to identify whether the grant funds will be used for programs and activities that are harmful to minors and whether the funds will be spent in compliance with law.</li><li>• Removed the changes to the number of appointments that the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and President of the Senate make to the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.</li><li>• Eliminated the commission fee issued by the Governor.</li></ul>			
<a href="#">Transportation &amp; Economic Development Budget Subcommittee</a>				
<a href="#">State Affairs Committee</a>				

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**THIS BILL ANALYSIS HAS BEEN UPDATED TO INCORPORATE ALL OF THE CHANGES DESCRIBED ABOVE.**  
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