

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4013**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Nine**  
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An Act relative to the establishment of cultural districts..

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 10 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
2 section 52 the following section:-

3           Section 52A. The council shall establish criteria and guidelines for state designated  
4 cultural districts. A cultural district shall be a well recognized, labeled, mixed-use, compact area  
5 of a city or town in which a high concentration of cultural facilities serves as an anchor. The  
6 goals of a cultural district shall include attracting artists and cultural enterprises to a community,  
7 encouraging business and job development, establishing tourist destinations, preserving and  
8 reusing historic buildings, enhancing property values and fostering local cultural development.

9           The Council shall develop a program to prepare a city or town to become home to a state  
10 designated cultural district, create an application process and develop qualifying criteria and  
11 guidelines. Agencies of the executive branch, constitutional offices and quasi governmental  
12 agencies shall identify programs and services that support and enhance the development of  
13 cultural districts and assure that they are accessible to such districts.

14           SECTION 2. The council shall in cooperation with the executive branch, constitutional  
15 offices, quasi governmental agencies and the joint committee on tourism, arts and cultural  
16 development identify additional and existing state incentives and resources that will enhance  
17 state designated cultural districts and shall reports their findings together with drafts of  
18 legislation as may be necessary to carry its recommendations into effect by filing same with the  
19 clerk of the house of representatives no later than January 1, 2010.