By the Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability;
and Senator Hukill

585-02037-13   2013366c1

1   A bill to be entitled
2   An act relating to the State Poet Laureate; amending
3   s. 265.285, F.S.; assigning duties to the Florida
4   Council on Arts and Culture relating to the promotion
5   of poetry and recommendations for the appointment of
6   the State Poet Laureate; creating s. 265.2863, F.S.;
7   creating the honorary position of State Poet Laureate
8   within the Department of State; establishing
9   procedures for the acceptance of nominations, the
10   qualifications and recommendation of nominees, and the
11   appointment of the State Poet Laureate; providing
12   terms and the process for filling vacancies;
13   specifying that any former poet laureate becomes a
14   State Poet Laureate Emeritus or State Poet Laureate
15   Emerita; providing that the State Poet Laureate, the
16   State Poet Laureate Emeritus and the State Poet
17   Laureate Emerita shall serve without compensation;
18   authorizing the department to adopt rules; providing
19   an effective date.
20
21   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
22
23   Section 1. Present paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of
24   section 265.285, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph
25   (h), and a new paragraph (g) is added to that subsection, to
26   read:
27   265.285 Florida Council on Arts and Culture; membership,
28   duties.—
29   (2) The council shall:

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

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30   (g) Promote the reading, writing, and appreciation of

31 poetry throughout the state and accept nominations and recommend

32 nominees for appointment as the State Poet Laureate under s.

33 265.2863.

34   Section 2. Section 265.2863, Florida Statutes, is created

35 to read:

36   265.2863 State Poet Laureate.—

37   (1) The honorary position of State Poet Laureate is created

38 within the Department of State.

39   (2)(a) The Florida Council on Arts and Culture, in

40 accordance with procedures adopted by the department, shall

41 accept nominations for appointment as the State Poet Laureate.

42 The council shall solicit nominations from a broad array of

43 literary sources and members of the public.

44   (b) The council shall recommend to the Secretary of State

45 at least five nominees for appointment as the State Poet

46 Laureate, each of whom must be:

47   1. A permanent resident of the state;

48   2. A public literary poet who has significant standing

49 inside and outside of the state; and

50   3. Willing and physically able to perform the duties of the

51 State Poet Laureate as prescribed by the department, which may

52 include, but are not limited to, engaging in outreach and

53 mentoring for the benefit of schools and communities throughout

54 the state and performing readings of his or her own poetry, as

55 requested.

56   (c) The Secretary of State shall, from among the nominees

57 recommended by the council, submit three nominees to the

58 Governor, who shall appoint one nominee as the State Poet

59 Laureate.

60   (3) The State Poet Laureate shall serve a term of 4 years.

61 A vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired

62 term in the same manner as the original appointment.

63   (4) Each of the state's poets laureate appointed before the

64 effective date of this section and each State Poet Laureate

65 appointed under this section, upon the appointment of his or

66 her successor, shall be designated a State Poet Laureate Emeritus or

67 State Poet Laureate Emerita in recognition of his or her service

68 to the state.

69   (5) The State Poet Laureate and each State Poet Laureate

70 Emeritus or State Poet Laureate Emerita shall serve without

71 compensation.

72   (6) The department may adopt rules to administer this

73 section.

74   Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.