

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1679 Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network

SPONSOR(S): McClure, Rayner

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** CS/SB 592

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Constitutional Rights, Rule of Law & Government Operations Subcommittee	11 Y, 0 N	Poreda	Miller
2) Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee	12 Y, 0 N	McAuliffe	Davis
3) State Affairs Committee			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Within the Department of State (DOS), the Division of Historical Resources (Division) is responsible for preserving and promoting Florida's historical, archaeological, and folk culture resources. The Division is also charged with encouraging identification, evaluation, protection, preservation, collection, conservation, and interpretation of information about Florida's historic sites and properties or objects related to Florida's history and culture.

The Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network (FAAHPN) is a professional association organized in 2001 by the John Gilmore Riley Center Museum. FAAHPN serves as an informational and technical assistance resource in response to a growing interest in preserving Florida's African American culture, that of the African Diaspora, and that of other related ethnically diverse historic resources globally.

The bill requires DOS to contract with FAAHPN, as authorized by and consistent with funding appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, and in accordance with the duties of the Division, to preserve Florida Black and African American history and culture. The bill specifies the duties of FAAHPN under any such contract include:

- Distributing funds to support member museums and their affiliates and institutions served, together with associated galleries and archives;
- Supporting member museums and affiliates in the areas of technology, equipment, content and exhibit creation, and preservation of documents and artifacts; and
- Providing professional and resource development to member museums and affiliates to enhance visitation and viewership of Florida Black History and African American museums.

The bill provides that certain other expenses will be eligible for funding under the contract, including expenses for interns, field training and virtual communication, traveling exhibits, and living history presentations.

Other than such funds as may be appropriated by the Legislature, the bill has no fiscal impact on the state, local governments, or the private sector.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2024

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Background

Department of State

The Department of State (DOS)¹ is comprised of six divisions: Elections, Historical Resources, Corporations, Library and Information Services, Arts and Culture, and Administration.² The Secretary of State (Secretary) is the agency head of DOS, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor, confirmed by the Senate, and acts as the custodian of state records.³ As the chief administrator of the Division of Historical Resources (Division), the Division of Arts and Culture, and Division of Library and Information Services, the Secretary also serves as Florida's Chief Arts and Culture Officer.⁴

Division of Historical Resources

The Division is responsible for preserving and promoting Florida's historical, archaeological, and folk culture resources. The Division is also charged with encouraging identification, evaluation, protection, preservation, collection, conservation, and interpretation of information about Florida's historic sites and properties or objects related to Florida's history and culture.⁵ Some of the Division's responsibilities include:

- Developing a comprehensive statewide historic preservation plan;
- Directing and conducting a comprehensive statewide survey, and maintaining an inventory, of historic resources;
- Cooperating with governmental agencies, private organizations, and individuals to ensure that historic resources are taken into consideration at all levels of planning and development;
- Providing public information, education, and technical assistance relating to historic preservation programs; and
- Taking necessary or appropriate action to locate, acquire, protect, preserve, operate, interpret, and promote historic resources to foster an appreciation of Florida history and culture.⁶

In order to raise awareness of the state's cultural and historical resources, the Division started the Florida Heritage Trails series in 1991 with the publication of the first edition of the Florida Black Heritage Trail.⁷ Since then, additional titles have been released with the most recent title, the Florida Seminole Wars Heritage Trail, published in the summer of 2015. Each volume identifies historical sites throughout Florida that are related to the volume topic and offers profiles and biographical sketches of significant individuals.⁸

¹ S. 20.10, F.S.

² S. 20.10(2), F.S.

³ S. 20.10(1), F.S.

⁴ S. 15.18, F.S.

⁵ S. 267.031, F.S.

⁶ S. 267.031(5)(a), (b), (d), (f), and (i), F.S.

⁷ Florida Department of State, *Florida Heritage Trails*, available at <https://dos.fl.gov/historical/preservation/heritage-trails/> (Last Visited February 5, 2024)

⁸ *Id.*

The Division also is responsible for encouraging, promoting, maintaining, and operating Florida history museums, providing support and working to promote the use of resources for educational and cultural purposes.⁹ The Division directly oversees the following museums:

- The Museum of Florida History, which is the state’s official history museum and showcases Florida’s diverse history from prehistoric times to the present day;¹⁰
- Mission San Luis, a living history museum showcasing the life of the Apalachee Indians and Spanish settlers and hosting workshops such as pottery and blacksmithing;¹¹
- The Knott House Museum, showcasing the history of Tallahassee and its role in the Civil War, including the reading of the Emancipation Proclamation on the steps of the Knott House in 1865;¹² and
- The Grove Museum, the mission of which is to preserve and interpret the Call-Collins House, its surrounding area and historical collections, to further public dialogue about civil rights and American history.¹³

Currently, the Division provides support for the Florida Museum of Black History Task Force (Task Force), including staffing and necessary expenditures. The purpose of the Task Force is to provide recommendations to the Division for the planning, location, construction, operation, and administration of a Florida Museum of Black History to showcase the role of African American participation in defending and preserving Florida and the nation, the history of slavery in Florida, the history of segregation in the state, notable Florida African Americans, including Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, the history of black colleges and universities in Florida, and the inherent worth and dignity of human life with a focus on preventing genocide.¹⁴

Other museums recognized by the state include:

- Certain state railroad museums;¹⁵
- The Florida Museum of Transportation and History;¹⁶
- The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art;¹⁷
- The Ringling Museum of the Circus;¹⁸
- The Florida Historic Capitol Museum;¹⁹
- The Florida Agricultural Museum;²⁰ and
- The Florida Museum of Natural History.²¹

Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network

The Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network (FAAHPN) is a professional association organized in 2001 by the John Gilmore Riley Center Museum.²² FAAHPN serves as an informational and technical assistance resource in response to a growing interest in preserving Florida’s African American culture, that of the African Diaspora, and that of other related ethnically diverse historic

⁹ S. 267.071(2), F.S.

¹⁰ See Florida Department of State, *Museum of Florida History*, available at <https://museumoffloridahistory.com/explore/exhibits/> (last visited January 25, 2024).

¹¹ See Florida Department of State, *Mission San Luis*, available at <https://missionsanluis.org/learn/> (last visited February 5, 2024).

¹² See Florida Department of State, *About the Knott House*, available at <https://museumoffloridahistory.com/visit/knott-house-museum/about-the-knott-house/> (last visited January 25, 2024).

¹³ See Florida Department of State, *The Gove Museum*, available at <https://thegrovemuseum.com/> (last visited February 5, 2024). The Grove was the home to several generations of the Call and Collins families, including former Governor LeRoy Collins. The Grove Advisory Council advises the division on the operation, maintenance, and preservation of the museum. S. 267.075, F.S.

¹⁴ S. 267.0722, F.S.

¹⁵ See s. 15.045, F.S.

¹⁶ S. 15.046, F.S.

¹⁷ See ss. 265.27, F.S., and 1004.45, F.S.

¹⁸ S. 1004.45, F.S.

¹⁹ S. 272.129, F.S. The Florida Historic Capitol Museum Council provides guidance and support to the museum director and support staff. S. 272.131, F.S.

²⁰ See s. 570.69, F.S.

²¹ S. 1004.56, F.S.

²² See “John G. Riley Center & Museum,” available at <https://www.rileymuseum.org/> (last visited February 5, 2024).

resources globally.²³ Working with the Division and Visit Florida,²⁴ FAAHPN produced new editions of *The Florida Black Heritage Trail Guide* in 2005 and 2007 that detailed a microcosm of African American landmarks and legacies existing in various locations throughout the state of Florida.²⁵ FAAHPN also provides technical assistance and training to museum and historic preservation professionals to enhance content with the creation of living history exhibits and other educational products.²⁶

The following chart is the history of funding requests and funding received by FAAHPN from the 2017-2018 fiscal year to the current fiscal year:

Spending Category	2017-2018 ²⁷	2018-2019 ²⁸	2019-2020 ²⁹	2020-2021 ³⁰	2021-2022 ³¹	2022-2023 ³²	2023-2024 ³³
Salary and Benefits	\$112,000	\$35,000	\$141,400	\$168,150	\$262,000	\$262,000	\$262,000
Expense/ Equipment/ Travel/ Supplies/ Other	\$297,500	\$265,000	\$257,100	\$262,100	\$424,400	\$424,400	\$424,400
Consultants/ Contracted Services/Study	\$40,500	\$175,000	\$76,500	\$69,750	\$113,600	\$113,600	\$113,600
Total							
State Funds Requested	\$450,000	\$475,000	\$475,000	\$500,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000
State Funds Received	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$475,000	\$325,000	\$720,000	\$800,000	\$800,000

Effect of the Bill

²³ The Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network, *About FAAHPN*, <http://faahpn.com/about-faahpn/> (last visited February 5, 2024).

²⁴ Visit Florida is the official state tourism marketing corporation. See “About Visit Florida,” available at <https://www.visitflorida.com/about-us/> (last visited February 5, 2024).

²⁵ See Florida Department of State, *The Florida Black Heritage Trail*, available at <https://dos.fl.gov/historical/preservation/heritage-trails/black-heritage-trail/> (Last Visited February 5, 2024)

²⁶ The Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network, *supra*, n. 24..

²⁷ The Florida House, *2017 Appropriations Project Bills*, available at <https://myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?FileName=projectbills&DocumentType=MemberBudgetRequests&Session=2017&BillNumber=2379&BillId=57497> (Last Visited February 5, 2024)

²⁸ The Florida House, *2018 Appropriations Project Bills*, available at <https://myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?FileName=projectbills&DocumentType=MemberBudgetRequests&Session=2018&BillNumber=2837&BillId=60976> (Last Visited February 5, 2024)

²⁹ The Florida House, *2019 Appropriations Project Bills*, available at <https://myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?FileName=projectbills&DocumentType=MemberBudgetRequests&Session=2019&BillNumber=2049&BillId=63214> (Last Visited February 5, 2024)

³⁰ The Florida House, *2020 Appropriations Project Bills*, available at <https://myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?FileName=projectbills&DocumentType=MemberBudgetRequests&Session=2020&BillNumber=2785&BillId=67486> (Last Visited February 5, 2024)

³¹ The Florida House, *2021 Appropriations Project Bills*, available at <https://myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?FileName=projectbills&DocumentType=MemberBudgetRequests&Session=2021&BillNumber=2431&BillId=70857> (Last Visited February 5, 2024)

³² The Florida House, *2022 Appropriations Project Bills*, available at <https://myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?FileName=projectbills&DocumentType=MemberBudgetRequests&Session=2022&BillNumber=4391&BillId=75141> (Last Visited February 5, 2024)

³³ The Florida House, *2023 Appropriations Project Forms*, available at <https://myfloridahouse.gov/api/document/apr?sessionId=99&name=0402AR.pdf> (Last Visited January 25, 2024)

The bill requires DOS to contract with FAAHPN, as authorized by and consistent with funding appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, and in accordance with the duties of the Division to preserve Florida Black and African American history and culture.

The functions of FAAHPN under the contract will include, but are not limited to:

- Distribution of funding to support member museums and their affiliates and institutions served, and the galleries and archives of such museums, affiliates, and institutions;
- Support to member museums and their affiliates in the areas of technology, equipment acquisition, content and exhibit development fabrication and installation, and preservation of documents and artifacts; and
- Provision of professional and resource development services to member museums and their affiliates to enhance visitation to and viewership of Florida Black History and African American museums, places, and spaces. Such professional and resource development services shall include conferences, workshops, and training and tourism and marketing expenditures.

Other expenses as determined by FAAHPN and related to their mission are eligible for funding under the contract, including:

- Intern expenses;
- Expenses related to field training sessions and virtual communication methods to maintain connectivity among the museums;
- Traveling exhibit expenses; and
- Expenses for living history presentations.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Creates s. 267.0724, F.S., relating to Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network.

Section 2. Provides an effective date of July 1, 2024.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

See Fiscal Comments.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

See Fiscal Comments

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The contract between DOS and FAAHPN must be consistent with funding as may be appropriated in the General Appropriations Act.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable. The bill does not appear to require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that counties or municipalities have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

The bill neither authorizes nor requires executive branch rulemaking.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

None.