

House Bill 353

By: Representatives Seabaugh of the 34<sup>th</sup>, Carpenter of the 4<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Bonner of the 73<sup>rd</sup>, Westbrook of the 163<sup>rd</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 8 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the  
2 Department of Community Affairs, so as to enact the "Georgia Music Office and Music  
3 Ready Communities Act"; to provide for definitions; to create the Georgia Music Office; to  
4 provide for administration of the office; to provide for duties of the office; to provide for the  
5 adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations; to provide for an appropriations  
6 contingency; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Georgia Music Office and Music Ready  
10 Communities Act."

11 **SECTION 2.**

12 Chapter 8 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department  
13 of Community Affairs, is amended by adding a new article to read as follows:

14 "ARTICLE 14

15 50-8-310.

16 As used in this article, the term:

17 (1) 'Commissioner' means the commissioner of community affairs.

18 (2) 'Coordinate' means to issue rules, policies, standards, definitions, specifications, and  
19 other guidance.

20 (3) 'Department' means the Department of Community Affairs.

21 (4) 'Director' means the director of the office.

22 (5) 'Implementation' means planning, writing, drafting, designing, studying, and  
23 conducting market analysis; soliciting and accepting gifts, contributions, and cooperation;  
24 contracting, procurement, retention of consultants, and outsourcing; and other activities  
25 within the ordinary meaning of the term in this context.

26 (6) 'Marketing' means promoting, advertising, public relations, press relations, and  
27 branding; creation, use, and licensing of trademark, copyright, and other intellectual  
28 property; and other activities of a similar nature or within the term as it is commonly  
29 understood.

30 (7) 'Office' means the Georgia Music Office.

31 50-8-311.

32 (a) There is established the Georgia Music Office to facilitate the growth of Georgia's  
33 music industry in communities across this state through state-wide support, promotion, and  
34 cultivation of Georgia's rich music heritage, musicians, and vibrant music industry.

35 (b) The commissioner shall select a director to lead the office. In selecting the director,  
36 consideration shall be given to individuals who possess extensive knowledge of the many  
37 aspects of the music industry, including, but not limited to, live touring, recording, and  
38 distribution, and who possess at least five years of experience in the music industry. The

39 commissioner shall appoint personnel within the department to administer functions of the  
40 office.

41 (c) The office shall:

42 (1) Promote the growing production of music in this state, the enjoyment and  
43 appreciation of the Georgia music industry, and the benefits of visiting and viewing the  
44 diverse music productions in this state;

45 (2) Serve as a music business promotion office and information clearing-house for the  
46 Georgia music industry through the implementation of a strategic business development  
47 plan to help music industry professionals and businesses relocate to this state by  
48 providing resources and acting as a conduit for music related economic and community  
49 development;

50 (3) Coordinate and market specific programs and initiatives to attract music industry  
51 professionals and to foster the economic and community development of Georgia music  
52 businesses and musicians;

53 (4) Assist in growing Georgia's music industry by providing music industry professionals  
54 with production contacts in this state; suggesting possible performing, publishing, and  
55 recording locations; and other activities as may be required to promote this state as a  
56 national music center;

57 (5) Serve as a liaison between music businesses and governmental offices and agencies,  
58 including workforce development, education, and tourism;

59 (6) Publicize significant developments within the industry;

60 (7) Develop and market listings of music festivals, productions, and other music events  
61 being held throughout this state;

62 (8) Publicize and market this state's music heritage and culture;

63 (9) Facilitate the expansion of the music industry in this state; and

64 (10) Certify cities and counties as Music Friendly Georgia Certified Communities. Each  
65 city and county seeking such certification shall be required to host a Music Friendly

66 Georgia workshop to educate local leaders and stakeholders on the office's functions.  
67 Upon being certified, such cities and counties shall form an advisory board of local music  
68 industry stakeholders to promote music related economic development in their  
69 communities and appoint a Music Friendly Georgia Certified Liaison to liaise with the  
70 office.

71 (d) The office shall be assigned to the department for administrative purposes only, as  
72 prescribed in Code Section 50-4-3.

73 50-8-312.

74 (a) Subject to appropriations by the General Assembly or other available funding, the  
75 department is authorized to adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations as may be  
76 necessary to carry out this article.

77 (b) In its marketing and implementation of marketing for Georgia's music industry, the  
78 department may exercise its powers under paragraphs (2) and (6) of subsection (b) of Code  
79 Section 50-8-8 and may authorize and delegate to the office all or part of such powers for  
80 its own implementation."

81 **SECTION 3.**

82 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.