

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 968 - HB 1165

March 22, 2021

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Creates the Tennessee African American Historical Commission, to be composed of 12 members. Members shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses, including travel expenses. Establishes duties of the Commission. Requires the Commission to appoint a state historical director. Authorizes the Commission to employ personnel as deemed necessary to conduct its affairs.

Requires that African-American historical properties owned by the state be placed under the authority of the Commission, which may, in its discretion, make a contract for the administration, development, or operation of such property with a county, municipality, or agency within the state, a nonprofit corporation or organization, or a private individual, partnership, corporation, or association. The Commission must determine criteria for the approval of such properties for state aid, make reasonable rules for the public use of such properties, and establish fees for public admission to such properties.

Authorizes public officials to provide the Commission with official books, documents, records, official papers, and other printed media, for the purpose of permanent preservation. Authorizes the Commission to charge fees for copies of such media.

Authorizes the Commission to order the Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Administration to draw necessary funds, in addition to funds received from such admission fees and copy fees, to aid the Commission.

Creates an honorary position for State Historian for African-American history. Requires the Department of Finance and Administration to furnish office space for such position. Such historian shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses incurred while in the performance of official duties.

Requires all state agencies, which have control of state property, to consult the Commission prior to demolishing, altering, or transferring property that is or may be of historical, architectural, or cultural significance to African Americans. Establishes that the Commission has 30 working days to review and comment on plans to demolish, alter, or transfer state property that is or may be of historical, architectural, or cultural significance to African Americans. Requires that such state agencies seek advice of the Commission on possible alternatives to demolition, alteration, or transfer of such property.

Creates a special account within the General Fund, to be entitled the African-American Historic Property Land Acquisition Fund (Fund). Expenditures from the Fund may only be made to acquire land for areas designated as an historic place as evidenced by its inclusion on the

National Register of Historic Places or the Tennessee Register of Historic Places, or any other historic area as approved by majority vote of the Commission. Monies in the Fund do not revert at fiscal year-end, but continue with the Fund.

Requires the Commission to collaborate with the State Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission to develop and recommend curriculum that incorporates the achievements made by African Americans in the state and the United States.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Revenue – Exceeds \$226,700/FY21-22/  
Tennessee African American Historical Commission  
Exceeds \$217,900/FY22-23 and Subsequent Years/  
Tennessee African American Historical Commission**

**Increase State Expenditures – \$226,700/FY21-22/  
Tennessee African American Historical Commission  
\$217,900/FY22-23 and Subsequent Years/  
Tennessee African American Historical Commission**

**Other Fiscal Impact – This legislation creates the African-American Historic Property Land Acquisition Fund (Fund), out of which the Commission can acquire properties. Such Fund will be used solely to acquire properties. This legislation is estimated to result in an unknown amount of additional revenue and expenditures out of the Fund and the Commission’s funds. Due to multiple unknown factors, any additional amounts cannot be reasonably determined.**

Assumptions:

- The average mileage reimbursement per member for each meeting is estimated to be \$110 (\$0.47 x 234 miles).
- Every Commission member is assumed to require travel reimbursement.
- Members receive \$234 for lodging and \$61 for meals and incidentals, or \$295 total (\$234 + \$61).
- It is assumed that only 6 of the 12 Commission members will require reimbursement for lodging, meals, and incidentals.
- A total of six meetings annually.
- An increase in state expenditures of \$16,344 [(12 members x 6 meetings x \$110) + (6 members x 6 meetings x \$234)].
- The new state historical director position and the new State Historian for African-American history, created by this legislation, will result in an increase in state expenditures for reimbursement of travel and other necessary costs.
- The state historical director shall receive a salary. The State Historian for African-American History will not receive a salary, per the language of this legislation. Both positions will be reimbursed for necessary travel expenses.

- A recurring increase in state expenditures of \$81,576 (salary \$63,828 + benefits \$17,348 + supplies \$400) and a one-time increase in state expenditures of \$4,400 (computer \$2,400 + communications \$2,000).
- It is unknown how much travel these two positions will require, but it is reasonably estimated that such travel costs will be \$2,000 annually in addition to monthly travel which will require one day of travel per month, or 12 days per year. On such days, meals and incidentals will be reimbursed.
- An increase in state expenditures of \$13,720 {2 positions x [12 travel days x (\$110 + \$295) + \$2,000]}.
- In addition, the Commission is authorized to hire personnel as needed to carry out the provisions of this legislation.
- It is assumed that the Commission will require one administrative secretary position and one accountant-1 position.
- An increase in recurring state expenditures of \$106,247 (salary \$79,200 + benefits \$26,647 + supplies \$400) and a one-time increase in state expenditures of \$4,400 (computers \$2,400 + \$2,000 communication).
- All revenue earned through various means and allocations, gifts, grants, etc. are assumed to be allocated solely to the Commission, which is assumed not to revert to the General Fund, but carry forward. The precise amount of revenue to the Commission is unknown; however, it is reasonably assumed that fees will be set such that total revenue will exceed expenditures.
- An increase in state expenditures to the Commission in FY21-22 of \$226,687 (\$16,344 + \$81,576 + \$4,400 + \$13,720 + \$106,247 + \$4,400).
- An increase in state expenditures to the Commission in FY22-23 and subsequent years of \$217,887 (\$16,344 + \$81,576 + \$13,720 + \$106,247).
- An increase in state revenue to the Commission exceeding \$226,687 in FY21-22 and exceeding \$217,887 in FY22-23 and subsequent years.
- This legislation authorizes the Commission to acquire properties. Due to multiple unknown factors, the fiscal impact of any property acquisition cannot be readily determined. Such expenditures for property acquisitions shall be made out of the Fund.

## **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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