

HB 1580 -- ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

SPONSOR: Anderson

This bill adds definitions for "entertainment districts" and provides that entertainment districts are not required to file a petition that has been signed by more than 50% per capita of all owners of real property within the proposed district's boundaries. The bill also outlines the additional powers each entertainment district has within its boundaries.

This bill provides that "state departments", as defined in the bill, may fund entertainment tourism in the entertainment district if approved by the Department of Economic Development (DED) by August 28, 2027. Any annual expenditures by a state department must be limited to a portion of the tax revenues derived directly or indirectly from any promotion, development, and support of entertainment tourism supported by that annual expenditure within the entertainment district. This annual expenditure is subject to the agreement between the entertainment district and the state department.

The bill provides that the Director of the DED must make an annual written report on behalf of DED to the Governor and General Assembly within 90 days. This report must detail fiscal impact for the State in the prior fiscal year and project the overall net fiscal impact of the annual expenditures to the State over the term of the agreement between the state department and the entertainment district.

This bill is the same as HB 1524 (2025).