
Capital Budget Committee

HB 2809

Brief Description: Concerning efficiency updates for capital budget appropriations allocated for public art.

Sponsors: Representatives Tharinger, Doglio, Peterson, McBride and Van Werven.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Authorizes higher education institutions and state agencies to use up to 10 percent of the art allocation during the design phase.
- Codifies provisions regarding art acquisition, lapsing of funds, annual reporting, and amounts that may be expended for maintaining existing art; and removes the language from the capital budget.

Hearing Date: 1/23/18

Staff: Melissa Palmer (786-7388).

Background:

The Legislature established the Art in Public Places Program, administered by the Washington State Arts Commission (Commission) in 1974. Artwork acquisition is funded through Washington's Omnibus Capital Appropriations Act (Capital Budget) using a formula of one-half of one percent of the state's portion of construction for new buildings. This includes art allocations for construction of K-12 public schools, higher education institutions, and state agencies. Higher education institutions also receive one-half of one percent for renovation projects exceeding \$200,000. These artworks become part of the State Art Collection. The State Art Collection includes over 4,600 works. The Commission initiated 50 and closed 32 art projects during the 2015-17 biennium.

The capital budget includes specific provisions related to art allocations including the parameters for amounts expended on direct acquisitions, the lapsing of art allocations, and an annual report. The 2015-17 Capital Budget specified at least 85 percent of the funds expended by the

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Commission must be for the direct acquisition of works of art. The Commission was authorized to use \$100,000 of the amount appropriated to conserve or maintain existing pieces of state art. Additionally during the 2015-17 biennium, higher education institutions were authorized to work with the Commission to expend up to 10 percent of the projected art allocation for a project during the design phase. Art allocations that are not expended within the ensuing two biennia are to lapse.

Summary of Bill:

Higher education institutions and state agencies that receive funding in the capital budget are permitted to expend up to 10 percent of the projected art allocation during the design phase. The one-half of one percent is to be adjusted downward by the amount expended during the design phase.

The provisions specify at least 85 percent of the money spent by the Commission be used on direct acquisition of works of art and that art allocations lapse if not expended within two biennia after the funds are allocated. The Commission is permitted to use up to \$200,000 of the amount expended to conserve or maintain existing pieces of the state art collection. The Commission is required to report annually to the Office of Financial Management and fiscal committees of the Legislature regarding the projects commissioned, partner agencies, artwork costs, administrative costs, collection care costs, funding source, and project status.

The 2015-17 Capital Budget language is amended to remove the provisions that are codified and instead includes a reference to the new codified section.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.