
HOUSE BILL 1841

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Wylie, Hill, and Doglio

Read first time 02/05/25. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing the own your own art purchase
2 program; adding a new section to chapter 43.46 RCW; creating new
3 sections; and making an appropriation.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature makes the following
6 findings:

7 (1) A program that provides affordable financing for the purchase
8 of original works of art by Washington state artists will stimulate
9 the arts, small businesses, Washington artists, the creative economy,
10 and encourage art ownership;

11 (2) The arts contribute significantly to the economic vitality
12 and cultural richness of Washington state;

13 (3) Access to original works of art enhance the quality of life
14 for individuals, artists, businesses, and communities; and

15 (4) Tasmania's art purchase program provides the basis and guide
16 for Washington state's own your own art program. Since 2009, more
17 than 6,700 Tasmanian artworks worth a combined value of \$22,000,000
18 have been purchased through the program.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The purpose of the own your own art
20 purchase program is to provide interest-free loans to eligible

1 individuals for the purchase of original works of art by Washington
2 state artists from participating arts businesses. This will:

3 (1) Support Washington state artists by facilitating the purchase
4 of their artwork and increasing their income and visibility;

5 (2) Stimulate the arts economy by encouraging art buying, which
6 in turn supports participating art businesses including, but not
7 limited to, galleries and studios, and by contributing to the overall
8 economic health of the arts and creative economy sectors in the
9 state;

10 (3) Increase art ownership by making art more accessible through
11 interest-free loans which can encourage individuals to invest in
12 original artwork, enriching their homes and lives while supporting
13 the arts community;

14 (4) Promote arts and culture by making art more accessible to a
15 wider range of people which will increase appreciation for and
16 engagement with the arts within the state; and

17 (5) Create a win-win situation by connecting art buyers with
18 Washington state artists, fostering a thriving arts ecosystem, and
19 enriching the cultural landscape of the state.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.46
21 RCW to read as follows:

22 (1) The own your own art purchase program is established within
23 the commission. The commission must administer the program and issue
24 loans as provided in this section. To administer the program and
25 issue loans, the commission may solicit gifts and grants under RCW
26 43.46.060 and expend money appropriated by the legislature for this
27 purpose.

28 (2) To be eligible for a loan under this section, an applicant
29 must:

30 (a) Be a resident of the United States;

31 (b) Be 18 years of age or older;

32 (c) Purchase artwork for personal use;

33 (d) Agree not to export the artwork while the loan is outstanding
34 without written consent from the commission; and

35 (e) Meet other eligibility criteria established by the commission
36 in rule.

37 (3) Eligible purchases include:

38 (a) Original works of art created by Washington state artists;

1 (b) Commissions of original works of art by Washington state
2 artists; and

3 (c) Original works of art created by Washington-based indigenous
4 artists.

5 (4) The own your own art purchase program must provide loans of
6 between \$1,000 and \$12,000 as provided in this section. Loans shall
7 be interest-free or low-interest. Loans shall be repaid in 12 equal
8 monthly installments. The commission must establish a process for
9 collecting loan payments, including through direct debit. A fee may
10 be charged for late or dishonored payments and additional terms and
11 conditions may be imposed as necessary to administer the program.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of \$225,000, or as much thereof as
13 may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30,
14 2026, from the general fund to the Washington state arts commission
15 for the purposes of this act.

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