

No. 282

## AN ACT

HB 2292

Creating a temporary State commission to study the fiscal needs of cultural institutions in the Commonwealth and to make recommendations relating thereto and making an appropriation.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. The cultural heritage of Pennsylvania is in danger of serious deterioration because of both short range and long range financial difficulties. Deficits which have traditionally plagued the arts, but which heretofore have been relatively small or manageable, have escalated rapidly to critical proportions because of soaring costs, inadequate income and insufficient managerial assistance.

The arts are a timeless resource for Pennsylvania. The arts are a great adornment of the Commonwealth's image for itself, the country and the world.

There must be found a long term solution to the financial plight of our museums, performing arts organizations, community arts, science and historical resources, community musical resources, dance companies, opera companies, and theatre organizations and resources.

Section 2. A temporary State commission is hereby created, known as the temporary State commission on the cultural resources of the State. The commission shall make a study of the current and long range fiscal needs of the cultural institutions in Pennsylvania for the purpose of determining whether assistance is needed and if so, to recommend a series of alternatives to meet such fiscal needs.

Section 3. The commission shall consist of eleven citizens of the Commonwealth, of whom two shall be appointed by the President pro tempore and one by the minority leader of the Senate, two by the Speaker and one by the minority leader of the House of Representatives and five to be appointed by the Governor. In making such appointments, due consideration shall be given to recommendations made by representative business, labor, cultural, educational and charitable groups. Such members of the commission shall serve at the pleasure of the officer making the appointment. Vacancies in the membership of the commission and among its officers shall be filled in the manner provided for original appointments.

Section 4. The commission shall organize as soon as possible by selecting from its membership a chairman and such other officers as it considers necessary; and shall provide rules for transacting business and keeping records. A majority of the commission members shall constitute a quorum. Members of the commission shall serve without

compensation except that they shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Section 5. The commission may employ and at pleasure remove such personnel as it may deem necessary for the performance of its function, and fix their compensation.

Section 6. For the accomplishment of its purpose, the commission shall be authorized and empowered to undertake any study, inquiry, survey or analysis it may deem relevant through its own personnel in cooperation with or by agreement with any other public or private agency.

Section 7. The commission may meet within and without the State, hold public or private hearings and shall have all the powers of a legislative committee pursuant to the legislative law.

Section 8. The commission may request and shall receive from any department, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the State or any political subdivision thereof such facilities, assistance and data as it deems necessary or desirable to carry out properly its powers and duties hereunder and may accept any offer of services, equipment, supplies, materials, or funds by gift or grant made for the purpose of assisting the commission in carrying out its function.

Section 9. The commission shall make a final report to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than May 1, 1975.

Section 10. The sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000), or as much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the temporary State commission on the cultural resources of the State to carry out the purposes of this act.

Section 11. The provisions of this act shall continue in full force and effect until May 1, 1975.

Section 12. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 10th day of December, A. D. 1974.

MILTON J. SHAPP

The foregoing is a true and correct copy of Act of the General Assembly No. 282.



*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*