



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN ARTS, CULTURE AND TOURISM PROMOTION FUND IN THE CITY OF NEW BEDFORD.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding Section 53 of Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the City of New Bedford shall establish in the city treasury a special account to be known as the Arts, Culture and Tourism Promotion Fund of the City of New Bedford, into which account shall be deposited certain receipts comprising a portion of the total local room occupancy tax received annually by the City under section 3A of chapter 64G of the General Laws, as set forth in Section 2, as well as any grants, gifts, or donations made to the City in furtherance of the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 2. The City shall deposit fifty percent of all local room occupancy tax revenue into the Fund. All interest earned from the Fund shall be treated as general fund revenue.

NOTE. — Use ONE side of paper ONLY. DOUBLE SPACE. Insert additional leaves, if necessary.

SECTION 3. Upon the recommendation of the Mayor of New Bedford and upon the majority vote of the City Council, the City may appropriate such funds as may be available into the Fund for the purposes of promoting the City's artistic and cultural assets, and to attract tourists to the City. All funds appropriated to the Fund shall be utilized only for these purposes. The City may not use proceeds of the Fund to pay personnel costs in the City's Tourism and Marketing Department. The City's chief financial officer shall forward to the Mayor and City Council a report of the Fund on the cash basis within ninety days after the end of the fiscal year.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect immediately upon passage.