

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

3 HOUSE BILL 1979

By: Pittman

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to tourism and recreation; creating  
8 the Oklahoma Freedom Trail Act; making designation  
9 for purposes of planning and administration; stating  
10 purpose of the Freedom Trail; requiring specific  
11 agencies to work in cooperation; designating entities  
12 and certain appointments as working group; requiring  
13 certain input and assistance; providing for coalition  
14 of historians and scholars; requiring creation of  
15 map and brochures; providing for marketing and  
16 advertising; providing for selection of sites;  
17 providing for system of markers; providing for  
18 features of markers; making implementation contingent  
19 upon funding; providing for codification; providing  
20 for noncodification; and providing an effective date.

21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

22 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
23 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2294 of Title 74, unless there  
24 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma  
Freedom Trail Act".

1           SECTION 2.           NEW LAW           A new section of law to be codified  
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2295 of Title 74, unless there  
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4           The Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department is hereby  
5 designated as the entity responsible for planning and providing  
6 administration for the Oklahoma Freedom Trail. The purpose of the  
7 Oklahoma Freedom Trail shall be to recognize, document and mark  
8 sites in this state that are associated with the history and  
9 movement towards freedom of its African-American citizens.

10          SECTION 3.           NEW LAW           A new section of law to be codified  
11 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2296 of Title 74, unless there  
12 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

13          The Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, the Oklahoma  
14 Historical Society, the Oklahoma Film and Music Commission and the  
15 Oklahoma Department of Transportation shall work in a cooperative  
16 partnership to establish, maintain and promote the Oklahoma Freedom  
17 Trail. A representative of each of the entities identified in this  
18 section plus a representative appointed by the Speaker of the  
19 Oklahoma House of Representatives and a representative appointed by  
20 the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate shall be  
21 collectively referred to as the Oklahoma Freedom Trail working  
22 group.

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1           SECTION 4.           NEW LAW           A new section of law to be codified  
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2297 of Title 74, unless there  
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4           A.   The members of the working group shall seek input and  
5 assistance from state and local museums both within and without the  
6 State of Oklahoma to develop the Oklahoma Freedom Trail system.

7           B.   The working group shall promote the formation of a  
8 distinguished coalition of historians and scholars to develop an  
9 inventory of the most notable sites to feature and highlight as part  
10 of the Oklahoma Freedom Trail.

11          C.   The working group shall be responsible for creating a  
12 detailed Oklahoma Freedom Trail map and brochure to promote the  
13 Oklahoma Freedom Trail.

14          D.   The working group shall be responsible for the marketing and  
15 advertising of the Oklahoma Freedom Trail both within and without  
16 the state as well as internationally through the use of a website,  
17 press releases and any other appropriate manner.

18           SECTION 5.           NEW LAW           A new section of law to be codified  
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2298 of Title 74, unless there  
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21          A.   The Oklahoma Freedom Trail shall consist of a number of  
22 specific site locations, to be selected by agreement of the working  
23 group, which highlight, recognize, document and mark sites in this  
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1 state that are associated with the history and movement towards  
2 freedom of its African-American citizens.

3 B. Each site along the Oklahoma Freedom Trail may be designated  
4 with a marker, the design of which shall be selected by agreement of  
5 the working group, memorializing the person, place or event selected  
6 for inclusion along the Trail.

7 C. The markers may include any features the working group deems  
8 to be in the best interest of promoting public interest in and  
9 support of the Oklahoma Freedom Trail.

10 SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be  
11 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

12 The implementation of the provisions of this act shall be  
13 contingent upon the availability of funding.

14 SECTION 7. This act shall become effective November 1, 2011.

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