

CULTURAL DISTRICTS: House Bill No. 23, of the Seventy-fifth General Assembly, Section 184.350-184.388, V.A.M.S., can be amended to place the establishment of subdistricts in addition to the three subdistricts now established in the Metropolitan St. Louis Cultural District before the voters of St. Louis City and County for approval or rejection and for purposes of funding.

OPINION NO. 149

June 15, 1971

Honorable Edward E. Ottinger
Representative, 60th District
5912 Loughborough
St. Louis, Missouri 63109



Dear Representative Ottinger:

You requested this Office's opinion with regard to the following matter:

"If additional organizations can be added to the Cultural District of Metropolitan St. Louis after the Cultural District Proposal is passed by the voters of the city and county of St. Louis?"

You indicated in your letter that your question related to the Cultural District established under provisions of House Bill 23 of the Seventy-fifth General Assembly of the State of Missouri. Such bill now appears as Sections 184.350 to 184.388, V.A.M.S.

You advised that the election to which you referred in your opinion request and which is authorized by such Act was held in Metropolitan St. Louis and that the voters of St. Louis City and St. Louis County established the Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District which includes three cultural sub-districts as authorized by the Act.

It is our understanding that the question raised by your opinion request is whether such bill could be amended so that certain institutions and places could be defined as additional "subdistricts" in Section 184.352 and provisions made for an election to determine whether a tax should be levied for support of such subdistricts.

Honorable Edward E. Ottinger

It is our opinion that House Bill No. 23 can be amended to provide for additional subdistricts. The Cultural District Bill now provides for three subdistricts: Zoological; Art Museum and Museum of Science and Natural History. Each of these subdistricts was voted on individually.

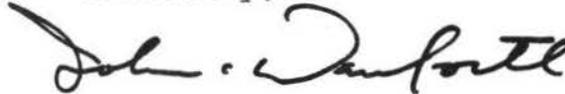
We see no reason why this bill could not be amended to provide for other subdistricts and for the establishment of such subdistricts and their funding to be submitted to the voters just as the original subdistricts were submitted.

CONCLUSION

It is therefore the opinion of this office that House Bill No. 23, of the Seventy-fifth General Assembly, Sections 184.350-184.388, V.A.M.S., can be amended to place the establishment of subdistricts in addition to the three subdistricts now established in the Metropolitan St. Louis Cultural District before the voters of St. Louis City and County for approval or rejection and for purposes of funding.

The foregoing opinion, which I hereby approve, was prepared by my Assistant, John C. Craft.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Danforth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

JOHN C. DANFORTH
Attorney General