

27 April 2025

AICSA Feedback on the proposed Arts, Culture and Creative Industries Bill 2025 [submitted via YourSAy]

1. Please provide feedback about the Principles in the draft Bill

The Arts Industry Council of South Australia (AISCA) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Draft Legislation. We welcome the legislation, accompanied by the recent release of the policy document A Place to Create, as evidence of the importance of the arts to our State and the government's commitment to support the Arts, Creative and Cultural Industries. The AICSA committee has worked together on the following feedback, which is being submitted on behalf of AICSA by Co-Chair Ruth Weldon.

The principles of the draft Bill are excellent. They are comprehensive, reflect that consultations have been effective and that stakeholders have been listened to. Centering First Nations people and our state's children are important aspects of the proposed legislation.

The principles highlight a rights-based approach including the right for all people to participate in cultural life and the right to freedom of expression for artists.

The acknowledgement of South Australia's First Nations might be turned into a more active statement like First Nations First.

Principle (f) "a vibrant arts, culture and creative industries sector brings important wellbeing, social and economic benefits to the State" should include "cultural" as one of the identified benefits alongside wellbeing, social and economic benefits.

We'd like to see more clarity on what the right to participate in the cultural life of South Australia means in practice. How will the legislation contribute to this in practice? Is it through ensuring the required cultural policy has a lens on participation?

2. Please provide feedback about the Objects in the draft Bill

Creating a mechanism for ensuring ongoing strategic planning, and the consultation with the sector to support it, should be beneficial to the sector

The importance of evidence-based policy is highlighted, with research and sector-accessible cultural data flagged as an Object of the Bill.

We would like to see the Legislation include an annual speech to parliament by the Minister on an aspect of the value of arts and culture to South Australia or similar active contribution.

How will the Objects be achieved? How will these Objects feed into the work of the Minister and benefit the industry?

AICSA appreciates the reference to a whole-of-government approach to supporting arts, culture and creative industries. We seek more information about how this legislation can support the delivery of that object.

One of the things the Objects section does not address is the role of the public sector in supporting arts, culture and creative industries. AICSA would like to see the legislation strengthen the role of the public sector in supporting arts and culture in South Australia.

3. Please provide feedback about the Guidelines in the draft Bill

This section seems correct in terms of the roles and responsibility of the Minister and the purpose of this Bill, although there is no detail on what guidelines might be introduced and how that would impact the State Arts, Culture and Creative Industries Policy.

4. Please provide feedback about the Functions of the Minister in the draft Bill

The Functions seem standard in terms of the role of a Minister. As with the other sections of this Bill, more clarity and detail on how these Functions will be delivered would be appreciated.

5. Please provide feedback about the State Arts, Culture and Creative Industries

The legislation is an important opportunity to enshrine the value of the Arts, Culture and Creative Industries in South Australia, therefore we believe more detail is required generally within the Bill. We would like to see more information on the Guidelines, Functions and future policy development. In addition, we ask how will the success of policies be tracked and measured, what does a thriving industry look like and how will the Minister and department be kept accountable to the policy and this Bill.

AICSA welcomes the Bill's intent to commit the government to ensuring a cultural policy for the people of South Australia and its cultural sector.