



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jose M. Serrano

Senator Serrano's Arts and Cultural District Legislation Passes State Senate

JOSE M. SERRANO June 9, 2017

| ISSUE: **ARTS AND CULTURE**



The New York State Senate passed Senator Jose M. Serrano's Arts and Cultural Districts Bill, [S3108](#). This important legislation would create arts and cultural districts throughout the state in order to promote the growth and development of the arts and culture sector.

New York has an abundance of artistic and cultural destinations. These destinations are major economic engines for the local economy and greatly improve the quality of life for the

surrounding communities. Serrano's legislation will create guidelines for state-certified "Arts and Cultural Districts", allowing these destinations to receive technical assistance in applying for grants, marketing, increasing tourism opportunities, and other economic development opportunities. Whether it is a concentration of museums or historic sites with artistic or cultural value, many destinations throughout the state have untapped potential that can be further harnessed through this bill.

"New York State is a culturally rich destination that is home to some of the greatest museums, theaters, and historic cultural sites in the world. These arts and culture institutions act as an economic engine for local communities and add cultural and educational value to the everyday lives of New Yorkers. This legislation will help identify and designate these important areas and help them continue to flourish," said Senator Serrano.

This is the second year in a row that this legislation has passed the State Senate. The bill now awaits passage in the New York State Assembly where it is carried by Assembly Member Aileen Gunther.

To see full version of legislation click [here](#).