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Fourth Session Twelfth Parliament Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago



REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Act No. 13 of 2024

[L.S.]

AN ACT to provide for the designation of the Steelpan as
the national musical instrument of the Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago and for related matters

[Assented to 19th July, 2024]

WHEREAS the Government of the Republic of Trinidad ^{Preamble}
and Tobago is committed to developing, safeguarding
and promoting culture and the arts and sustainably
strengthening the cultural sector:

And whereas the Steelpan was originally created and pioneered in Trinidad and Tobago by its very own innovative and enterprising citizens, making the Steelpan a significant source of national pride and the underpinning of the Nation's musical soul and rich cultural identity:

And whereas it has long been the policy of the Government that the Steelpan be considered the national musical instrument of Trinidad and Tobago:

And whereas the Government, in striving towards achieving the status as a modern state, sees it prudent to include this policy into law:

And whereas the Steelpan's origination in Trinidad and Tobago is internationally recognized and is further globally acclaimed through a host of events, schools and festivities:

And whereas the Steelpan has continuously been highlighted on the world stage through various accolades, achievements and awards:

And whereas it is expedient that the Steelpan be officially and legally declared as the national musical instrument in recognition of its fundamental value to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and its citizenry.

Enactment ENACTED by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago as follows:

Short title **1.** This Act may be cited as the National Musical Instrument Act, 2024.

Interpretation **2.** In this Act, "Steelpan" means a definite pitch percussion musical instrument in the idiophone class with notes on a concave playing surface, with or without a skirt, divided into convex sections by channels which may contain grooves or bores, or both, with each convex section being a note which is tuned to a definite pitch.

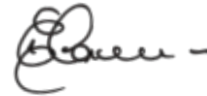
3. The Steelpan is hereby declared the national musical instrument of Trinidad and Tobago.

Declaration of the Steelpan as the national musical instrument

4. The Minister to whom responsibility for culture is assigned shall cause to be prepared and laid in Parliament, every two years from the date of commencement of this Act, a report on the recognition, status, promotion, development and impact of the Steelpan at national, regional and international levels.

Report of the Minister

Passed in the House of Representatives this 3rd day of July, 2024.



Clerk of the House

Passed in the Senate this 4th day of July, 2024.



Clerk of the Senate (Acting)