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HOUSE BILL 1254

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Bailey, B. Sullivan, Haler, Skinner, McDonald, Wallace, Condotta, Sump, Kristiansen, Strow, Pettigrew, McCune, P. Sullivan, Dunn and Morrell

Read first time 01/15/2007. Referred to Committee on Community & Economic Development & Trade.

1            AN ACT Relating to the use of lodging tax revenues for tourism  
2 promotion; and amending RCW 67.28.080 and 67.28.1815.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 67.28.080 and 1997 c 452 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
7 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

8            (1) "Acquisition" includes, but is not limited to, siting,  
9 acquisition, design, construction, refurbishing, expansion, repair, and  
10 improvement, including paying or securing the payment of all or any  
11 portion of general obligation bonds, leases, revenue bonds, or other  
12 obligations issued or incurred for such purpose or purposes under this  
13 chapter.

14            (2) "Municipality" means any county, city or town of the state of  
15 Washington.

16            (3) "Operation" includes, but is not limited to, operation,  
17 management, and marketing.

18            (4) "Person" means the federal government or any agency thereof,

1 the state or any agency, subdivision, taxing district or municipal  
2 corporation thereof other than county, city or town, any private  
3 corporation, partnership, association, or individual.

4 (5) "Tourism" means economic activity resulting from tourists,  
5 which may include sales of overnight lodging, meals, tours, gifts, or  
6 souvenirs.

7 (6) "Tourism promotion" means activities and expenditures designed  
8 to increase tourism, including but not limited to advertising,  
9 publicizing, or otherwise distributing information for the purpose of  
10 attracting and welcoming tourists; developing strategies to expand  
11 tourism; operating tourism promotion agencies; and funding marketing of  
12 special events and festivals designed to attract tourists.

13 (7) "Tourism-related facility" means real or tangible personal  
14 property with a usable life of three or more years, or constructed with  
15 volunteer labor((7)) that is: (a) Owned by a public entity or a  
16 nonprofit organization described under section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6)  
17 of the federal internal revenue code of 1986, as amended; and (b) used  
18 to support tourism, performing arts, or to accommodate tourist  
19 activities.

20 (8) "Tourist" means a person who travels from a place of residence  
21 to a different town, city, county, state, or country, for purposes of  
22 business, pleasure, recreation, education, arts, heritage, or culture.

23 **Sec. 2.** RCW 67.28.1815 and 1997 c 452 s 4 are each amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 All revenue from taxes imposed under this chapter shall be credited  
26 to a special fund in the treasury of the municipality imposing such tax  
27 and used solely for the purpose of paying all or any part of the cost  
28 of tourism promotion, acquisition of tourism-related facilities, or  
29 operation of tourism-related facilities. Municipalities may, under  
30 chapter 39.34 RCW, agree to the utilization of revenue from taxes  
31 imposed under this chapter for the purposes of funding a  
32 multijurisdictional tourism-related facility. In addition,  
33 municipalities may contract with a nonprofit organization described  
34 under section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) of the federal internal revenue  
35 code of 1986, as amended, for tourism promotion activities.

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