

SENATE BILL 637

L2, Q8

5lr2669
CF 5lr2419

By: **Washington County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2015

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington County – Hotel Rental Tax Revenue Distribution – Annual Reports**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the due date of certain annual reports to the Washington
4 County Senate and House Delegations to the General Assembly on the county hotel
5 rental tax revenue distribution; and generally relating to annual reports on the
6 Washington County hotel rental tax revenue distribution.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Local Government

9 Section 20–421

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2013 Volume and 2014 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Local Government**

15 20–421.

16 (a) Washington County shall distribute the hotel rental tax revenue as follows:

17 (1) 50% to the general fund of the county to be used to fund the
18 Hagerstown/Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau; and

19 (2) the remaining balance to a special fund to be used only to:

20 (i) cover costs for wages, postage, supplies, and legal fees incurred
21 in administering the hotel rental tax;

22 (ii) develop tourism attractions;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (iii) enhance economic development; and

2 (iv) support cultural and recreational projects in Washington
3 County.

4 (b) A municipality in Washington County may apply to the County
5 Commissioners of Washington County for funding from the special fund established under
6 subsection (a)(2) of this section for an eligible project within the municipality.

7 (c) Each year before adoption of its annual budget, the Hagerstown/Washington
8 County Convention and Visitors Bureau shall hold a public hearing on the proposed annual
9 budget.

10 (d) On or before [September] **NOVEMBER** 1 of each year:

11 (1) the County Commissioners of Washington County shall report to the
12 Washington County Senate and House Delegations to the General Assembly on the hotel
13 rental tax revenue collected and the use of the hotel rental tax revenue for the previous
14 fiscal year; and

15 (2) the Hagerstown/Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau
16 shall report to the Washington County Senate and House Delegations to the General
17 Assembly on the Bureau's use of the hotel rental tax revenue for the previous fiscal year.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
19 1, 2015.