

SENATE BILL 637

L2, Q8

5lr2669
CF HB 1170

By: **Washington County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2015

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 17, 2015

CHAPTER _____

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; repealing certain reporting requirements relating to
6 the county hotel rental tax revenue; requiring the Washington County
7 Commissioners to post a certain report on the hotel rental tax revenue on the
8 county’s Web site; requiring the Hagerstown/Washington County Convention and
9 Visitors Bureau to report to the County Commissioners on its use of the hotel rental
10 tax revenue; and generally relating to annual reports on the Washington County
11 hotel rental tax revenue distribution.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Local Government
14 Section 20–421
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2013 Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Local Government**

20 20–421.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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

2 (1) 50% to the general fund of the county to be used to fund the
3 Hagerstown/Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau; and

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

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

7 (ii) develop tourism attractions;

8 (iii) enhance economic development; and

9 (iv) support cultural and recreational projects in Washington
10 County.

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

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

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

18 (1) the County Commissioners of Washington County shall ~~report to the~~
19 ~~Washington County Senate and House Delegations to the General Assembly on~~ **POST ON**
20 **THE COUNTY'S WEB SITE A REPORT ON** the hotel rental tax revenue collected and the
21 use of the hotel rental tax revenue for the previous fiscal year; and

22 (2) the Hagerstown/Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau
23 shall report to the **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF** Washington County ~~Senate and House~~
24 ~~Delegations to the General Assembly~~ on the Bureau's use of the hotel rental tax revenue
25 for the previous fiscal year.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
27 1, 2015.