

Chapter 188

(Senate Bill 637)

AN ACT concerning

Washington County – Hotel Rental Tax Revenue Distribution – Annual Reports

FOR the purpose of altering the due date of certain annual reports ~~to the Washington County Senate and House Delegations to the General Assembly~~ on the county hotel rental tax revenue distribution; repealing certain reporting requirements relating to the county hotel rental tax revenue; requiring the Washington County Commissioners to post a certain report on the hotel rental tax revenue on the county's Web site; requiring the Hagerstown/Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau to report to the County Commissioners on its use of the hotel rental tax revenue; and generally relating to annual reports on the Washington County hotel rental tax revenue distribution.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Local Government

Section 20–421

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2013 Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

Article – Local Government

20–421.

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

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

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

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

(ii) develop tourism attractions;

(iii) enhance economic development; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2015.