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**By: Delegates Campbell and Rawlings**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 1997

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 26, 1997

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore City - Hotel Room Tax - Convention Center Promotion**

3 FOR the purpose of extending to certain fiscal years a provision limiting the rate of the  
4 hotel tax that may be imposed by Baltimore City; requiring that for certain fiscal  
5 years certain amounts measured by proceeds from a hotel room tax imposed by  
6 Baltimore City be appropriated for certain purposes; and generally relating to hotel  
7 room taxes and convention center marketing and tourism promotion in Baltimore  
8 City.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 The Charter of Baltimore City  
11 Article II - General Powers  
12 Section (40)(e)  
13 (1996 Edition, as amended)

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

16 **The Charter of Baltimore City**

17 Article II - General Powers

18 The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore shall have full power and authority to  
19 exercise all of the powers heretofore or hereafter granted to it by the Constitution of  
20 Maryland or by any Public General or Public Local Laws of the State of Maryland; and in  
21 particular, without limitation upon the foregoing, shall have power by ordinance, or such  
22 other method as may be provided for in its Charter, subject to the provisions of said  
23 Constitution and Public General Laws:

1           (40) (e) (1) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, for [Fiscal Year  
2 1997] ANY FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING BEFORE JULY 1, 2002, the rate of any hotel room  
3 tax imposed by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore may not exceed 7.5%.

4                           (2) FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 1997  
5 BUT BEFORE JULY 1, 2002, THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL SHALL APPROPRIATE  
6 FROM ITS GENERAL FUND SPECIFICALLY FOR CONVENTION CENTER MARKETING  
7 AND TOURISM PROMOTION AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO AT LEAST 40% OF THE  
8 PROCEEDS OF ANY HOTEL ROOM TAX IMPOSED.

9                           (3) IF THE APPROPRIATION MADE FOR ANY FISCAL YEAR  
10 PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION IS LESS THAN THE AMOUNT  
11 REQUIRED WHEN COMPARED TO ACTUAL RECEIPTS FOR THE COMPLETED FISCAL  
12 YEAR, THE DIFFERENCE SHALL BE ADDED TO THE APPROPRIATION TO BE MADE  
13 FOR THE SECOND SUCCEEDING FISCAL YEAR. IF THE APPROPRIATION MADE FOR  
14 ANY FISCAL YEAR PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION IS MORE  
15 THAN THE AMOUNT REQUIRED WHEN COMPARED TO ACTUAL RECEIPTS FOR THE  
16 COMPLETED FISCAL YEAR, THE DIFFERENCE MAY BE DELETED FROM THE  
17 APPROPRIATION TO BE MADE FOR THE SECOND SUCCEEDING FISCAL YEAR.

18           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
19 July 1, 1997.