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By: Washington County Delegation				
Introduced and read first time: March 6, 2000				
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations				
Re-referred to: Ways and Means, March 13, 2000				
Committee Report: Favorable with amendments				
House action: Adopted				
Read second time: March 25, 2000				

CHAPTER

## 1 AN ACT concerning

## 2 Washington County Hotel Rental Tax

- 3 FOR the purpose of altering the rate of the hotel rental tax imposed in Washington
- 4 County; altering the distribution of certain hotel rental tax revenue in
- Washington County; requiring the Hagerstown/Washington County Convention
- and Visitors Bureau to hold a public hearing each year on its proposed annual
- budget before adoption of the budget; requiring the Board of County
- 8 Commissioners of Washington County to report on or before certain dates to the
- 9 Washington County Senate and House Delegations of the General Assembly on
- the hotel rental tax revenue collected and the use of the revenue; requiring the
- 11 Hagerstown/Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau to report on or
- before certain dates to the Washington County Senate and House Delegations of
- the General Assembly on its use of the hotel rental tax revenue; prohibiting the
- Board of County Commissioners of Washington County from using any hotel
- rental tax revenue for the construction of a new stadium in the county until
- 16 certain events occur; requiring the Maryland Stadium Authority as part of its
- 17 review of a certain proposed new stadium to assess the viability and costs
- associated with constructing a multi-use stadium; and generally relating to the
- 19 Washington County hotel rental tax.
- 20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 21 Article 24 Political Subdivisions Miscellaneous Provisions
- 22 Section 9-304 and 9-318(b)(4)
- 23 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 24 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 2 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:					
3 Article 24 - Political Subdivisions - Miscellaneous Provisions					
4 9-304.					
5 (a) Subject to the limitations in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, the hotel 6 rental tax rate is the rate that the authorized county sets by resolution.					
7 (b) An authorized county may not set a hotel rental tax rate that exceeds:					
8 (1) 3% in a code county;					
9 (2) 5% in Calvert County;					
10 (3) 3% in Cecil County;					
11 (4) 5% in Charles County;					
12 (5) 5% in Dorchester County;					
13 (6) 5% in Garrett County;					
14 (7) 5% in St. Mary's County;					
15 (8) 3% in Somerset County;					
16 (9) 3% in Talbot County; AND					
17 (10) [3% in Washington County; and					
18 (11)] 5% in Wicomico County.					
19 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b)(1) of this section, a code county may set a 20 hotel rental tax rate that is greater than 3%, but not exceeding 5%, with the 21 unanimous consent of the county commissioners for the county.					
22 (D) THE HOTEL RENTAL TAX RATE IN WASHINGTON COUNTY IS 6%.					
23 9-318.					
24 (b) (4) (I) Washington County:					
[(i) May not deduct more than 5% of the revenue for administrative costs under subsection (a)(1) of this section; and					
27 (ii) Shall deposit all remaining revenues, after the distribution 28 under subsection (a)(1) of this section, in the general funds of Washington County to 29 underwrite the Washington County tourism budget and, when established, the 30 Washington County Convention Bureau.]					

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3	WASHINGTON CO	DUNTY TO	1. SHALL DISTRIBUTE 45% OF THE TOTAL HOTEL RENTAL OF IN THE COUNTY TO THE GENERAL FUND OF DISE USED TO FUND THE HAGERSTOWN/WASHINGTON NO VISITORS BUREAU; AND				
7 8	BE USED ONLY T	O DEVEL AND SUP	2. SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE REMAINING BALANCE AFTER R ITEM 1 OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH TO A SPECIAL FUND, TO OP TOURISM ATTRACTIONS, ENHANCE ECONOMIC PORT CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL PROJECTS IN				
12 13	APPLY TO THE B FUNDING FROM	THE SPEC	A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN WASHINGTON COUNTY MAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR CIAL FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I)2 OF ELIGIBLE PROJECT WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL				
	HAGERSTOWN/V		EACH YEAR BEFORE ADOPTION OF ITS ANNUAL BUDGET, THE TON COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU SHALL ON THE PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET.				
18 19	2001:	(IV)	ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR BEGINNING IN				
22 23	WASHINGTON CO HOUSE DELEGAT	ΓΙΟΝS OF ECTED ΑΙ	1. THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HALL REPORT TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SENATE AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE HOTEL RENTAL TAX ND THE USE OF THE HOTEL RENTAL TAX REVENUE FOR THE R; AND				
27	AND VISITORS B HOUSE DELEGAT	ΓΙΟΝS OF	2. THE HAGERSTOWN/WASHINGTON COUNTY CONVENTION HALL REPORT TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SENATE AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON ITS USE OF THE HOTEL OR THE PRECEDING FISCAL YEAR.				
29	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:						
	Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County may not use any hotel rental tax revenue for the construction of a new stadium in the county until:						
33 34	(1) stadium:	The Ma	ryland Stadium Authority has developed for the proposed new				
35		(i)	a preliminary plan;				
36		(ii)	an estimated project cost;				
37		(iii)	an economic impact review;				

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1		(iv)	a financing plan; and		
2 3	stadium; and	(v)	a reuse or redevelopment plan for the existing Hagerstown		
4 5	(2) reuse or redevelopme		mated project costs, economic impact, financing plan, and or the existing Hagerstown stadium have been:		
	commissioners of Wa jointly; and	(i) shington	approved by a majority vote of the combined membership of the County and the Hagerstown City Council, sitting		
9 10	Senate and House De	(ii) elegations	submitted for review and comment to the Washington County of the General Assembly.		
11 (b) As part of its review of the proposed new stadium, the Maryland Stadium 12 Authority shall assess the viability and costs associated with constructing a 13 multi-use stadium that, in addition to serving as the home field to a minor league 14 baseball team, would also be used by the community for other events such as 15 nonprofessional baseball, soccer, lacrosse, and track and field.					
16 17	SECTION 3. AN July 1, 2000.	D BE IT	FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect		