

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1447
Ways and Means

(Washington County Delegation)

Budget and Taxation

Washington County - Hotel Rental Tax Revenue - Distribution

This bill increases from 45% to 50% the amount of hotel tax revenue that Washington County must provide for funding of the Hagerstown/Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2005.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill does not change the total Washington County hotel tax revenues but changes the distribution of those revenues. It increases by 5%, or approximately \$60,000, the amount annually distributed to the Hagerstown/Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau and decreases by 5% the amount distributed to a special fund used to promote tourism, economic development, and recreation projects in the county.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Washington County must distribute 45% of its total hotel tax revenue for the Hagerstown/Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau and the remaining amount is distributed to a special fund used to cover the costs of administering the hotel

tax, develop tourism attractions, enhance economic development, and support cultural and recreation projects in the county.

Background: Washington County imposes a 6% hotel tax in fiscal 2005.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Washington County, Comptroller's Office, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 22, 2005
n/hlb

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