

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 239

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SCOTT.

Read 1st time January 26, 2005, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

1146S.01I

AN ACT

To amend chapter 94, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to local taxes, with an emergency clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 94, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 94.838, to read as follows:

94.838. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Food", all articles commonly used for food or drink, including alcoholic beverages, the provisions of chapter 311, RSMo, notwithstanding;

(2) "Food establishment", any café, cafeteria, lunchroom, or restaurant which sells food at retail;

(3) "Municipality", any fourth class city with more than two hundred but less than three hundred inhabitants and located in any county of the third classification with a township form of government and with more than twelve thousand five hundred but less than twelve thousand six hundred inhabitants;

(4) "Transient guest", a person or persons who occupy a room or rooms in a hotel or motel for thirty-one days or less during any calendar quarter.

2. The governing body of any municipality may impose, by order or ordinance:

(1) A tax, not to exceed six percent per room per night, on the charges for all sleeping rooms paid by the transient guests of hotels or motels situated in the municipality or a portion thereof; and

(2) A tax, not to exceed two percent, on the gross receipts derived from the retail sales of food by every person operating a food establishment in the municipality.

The taxes shall be imposed solely for the purpose of funding the construction, maintenance, and operation of capital improvements. The order or ordinance shall not become effective unless the governing body of the municipality submits to the voters of the municipality at a state general or primary election a proposal to authorize the governing body of the municipality to impose taxes under this section. The taxes authorized in this section shall be in addition to the charge for the sleeping room, the retail sales of food at a food establishment, and all other taxes imposed by law, and shall be stated separately from all other charges and taxes.

3. The ballot of submission for the taxes authorized in this section shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall (insert the name of the municipality) impose a tax on the charges for all retail sales of food at a food establishment situated in (name of municipality) at a rate of (insert rate of percent) percent, and for all sleeping rooms paid by the transient guests of hotels and motels situated in (name of municipality) at a rate of (insert rate of percent) percent, solely for the purpose of funding the construction, maintenance, and operation of capital improvements?

☐ YES

☐ NO

If a majority of the votes cast on the question by the qualified voters voting thereon are in favor of the question, then the taxes shall become effective on the first day of the second calendar quarter after the director of revenue receives notice of the adoption of the taxes. If a majority of the votes cast on the question by the qualified voters voting thereon are opposed to the question, then the taxes shall not become effective unless and until the question is resubmitted under this section to the qualified voters and such question is approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question.

4. Any tax on the retail sales of food imposed under this section shall be administered, collected, enforced, and operated as required in section 32.087, RSMo, and any transient guest tax imposed under this section shall be administered, collected, enforced, and operated by the

municipality imposing the tax. All revenue generated by the tax shall be deposited in a special trust fund and shall be used solely for the designated purposes. If the tax is repealed, all funds remaining in the special trust fund shall continue to be used solely for the designated purposes. Any funds in the special trust fund which are not needed for current expenditures may be invested in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund.

5. The governing body of any municipality that has adopted the taxes authorized in this section may submit the question of repeal of the taxes to the voters on any date available for elections for the municipality. The ballot of submission shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall (insert the name of the municipality) repeal the taxes imposed at the rates of (insert rate of percent) and (insert rate of percent) percent for the purpose of funding the construction, maintenance, and operation of capital improvements?

☐ YES

☐ NO

If a majority of the votes cast on the proposal are in favor of repeal, that repeal shall become effective on December thirty-first of the calendar year in which such repeal was approved. If a majority of the votes cast on the question by the qualified voters voting thereon are opposed to the repeal, then the tax authorized in this section shall remain effective until the question is resubmitted under this section to the qualified voters, and the repeal is approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question.

6. Whenever the governing body of any municipality that has adopted the taxes authorized in this section receives a petition, signed by ten percent of the registered voters of the municipality voting in the last gubernatorial election, calling for an election to repeal the taxes imposed under this section, the governing body shall submit to the voters of the municipality a proposal to repeal the taxes. If a majority of the votes cast on the question by the qualified voters voting thereon are in favor of the repeal, that repeal shall become effective on December thirty-first of the calendar year in which such repeal was approved. If a majority of the votes cast on the question by the qualified

voters voting thereon are opposed to the repeal, then the tax shall remain effective until the question is resubmitted under this section to the qualified voters and the repeal is approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question.

Section B. Because immediate action is necessary to provide funding for necessary infrastructure, section A of this act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, welfare, peace, and safety, and is hereby declared to be an emergency act within the meaning of the constitution, and section A of this act shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval.

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