

PSHB 1254
By Representative Bailey

1. Removes 501(c)(3) organizations.
2. Clarifies that visitor information centers, operated by a municipality or a 501(c)(6), are authorized tourism promotion activities.

AN ACT Relating to the use of lodging tax revenues for tourism

1
2 promotion; and amending RCW 67.28.080 and 67.28.1815.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 3.** RCW 67.28.080 and 1997 c 452 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
7 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

8 (1) "Acquisition" includes, but is not limited to, siting,
9 acquisition, design, construction, refurbishing, expansion, repair, and
10 improvement, including paying or securing the payment of all or any
11 portion of general obligation bonds, leases, revenue bonds, or other
12 obligations issued or incurred for such purpose or purposes under this
13 chapter.

14 (2) "Municipality" means any county, city or town of the state of
15 Washington.

16 (3) "Operation" includes, but is not limited to, operation,
17 management, and marketing.

1 (4) "Person" means the federal government or any agency thereof,
2 the state or any agency, subdivision, taxing district or municipal
3 corporation thereof other than county, city or town, any private
4 corporation, partnership, association, or individual.

5 (5) "Tourism" means economic activity resulting from tourists,
6 which may include sales of overnight lodging, meals, tours, gifts, or
7 souvenirs.

8 (6) "Tourism promotion" means activities and expenditures designed
9 to increase tourism, including but not limited to advertising,
10 publicizing, or otherwise distributing information for the purpose of
11 attracting and welcoming tourists; developing strategies to expand
12 tourism; operating tourism promotion agencies; and funding marketing of
13 special events and festivals designed to attract tourists.

14 (7) "Tourism-related facility" means real or tangible personal
15 property with a usable life of three or more years, or constructed with
16 volunteer labor((7)) that is: (a) Owned by a public entity or a
17 nonprofit organization described under section 501(c)(6) of the federal
18 internal revenue code of 1986, as amended; and (b) used to support
19 tourism, including visitor information centers, performing arts, or to
20 accommodate tourist activities.

21 (8) "Tourist" means a person who travels from a place of residence
22 to a different town, city, county, state, or country, for purposes of
23 business, pleasure, recreation, education, arts, heritage, or culture.

24 (9) "Visitor information center" means real property which is owned
25 or leased by a municipality or a nonprofit organization under section
26 501(c)(6) of the federal internal revenue code of 1986, as amended, and
27 is used for the purpose of providing information to tourists.

28 **Sec. 4.** RCW 67.28.1815 and 1997 c 452 s 4 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 All revenue from taxes imposed under this chapter shall be credited
31 to a special fund in the treasury of the municipality imposing such tax
32 and used solely for the purpose of paying all or any part of the cost
33 of tourism promotion, acquisition of tourism-related facilities, or
34 operation of tourism-related facilities. Municipalities may, under
35 chapter 39.34 RCW, agree to the utilization of revenue from taxes

1 imposed under this chapter for the purposes of funding a
2 multijurisdictional tourism-related facility. In addition,
3 municipalities may contract with a nonprofit organization described
4 under section 501(c)(6) of the federal internal revenue code of 1986,
5 as amended, for tourism promotion activities.

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