

By Senator Siplin

19-1062-05

1                                    A bill to be entitled

2                    An act relating to economic development;

3                    amending s. 125.0104, F.S., relating to the

4                    local option tourist development tax; allowing

5                    a county that levies the tax authorized under

6                    s. 125.0104(3)(n), F.S., to use the tax

7                    proceeds to participate with the state in an

8                    economic-development project to attract

9                    specified types of high-technology industries

10                   to the county; providing an effective date.

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12                    WHEREAS, the commercialization of technologies

13 developed in academic laboratories and research centers

14 through the application of recent innovations is critical for

15 Florida to maintain a competitive economy, and

16                    WHEREAS, the development of high-technology industries

17 in Florida, including artificial intelligence, human-centered

18 computing, information technology and communications,

19 biotechnology, bioinformatics, biomedical, electro-optics,

20 life science, nanotechnology, and computer simulation, is

21 critical to the long-term economic vitality of this state, and

22                    WHEREAS, high-technology industries will further

23 diversify and strengthen the Florida economy and complement

24 industries that are already recognized as being critical to

25 Florida's economic health, and

26                    WHEREAS, attracting leading scholars and researchers in

27 advanced and emerging technology disciplines to Florida's

28 universities is critical to building Florida's knowledge base

29 and will serve a paramount public purpose, NOW, THEREFORE,

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31 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

1           Section 1. Paragraph (n) of subsection (3) of section  
2 125.0104, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

3           125.0104 Tourist development tax; procedure for  
4 levying; authorized uses; referendum; enforcement.--

5           (3) TAXABLE PRIVILEGES; EXEMPTIONS; LEVY; RATE.--

6           (n) In addition to any other tax that is imposed under  
7 this section, a county that has imposed the tax under  
8 paragraph (l) may impose an additional tax that is no greater  
9 than 1 percent on the exercise of the privilege described in  
10 paragraph (a) by a majority plus one vote of the membership of  
11 the board of county commissioners in order to:

12           1. Pay the debt service on bonds issued to finance:

13           a. The construction, reconstruction, or renovation of  
14 a facility either publicly owned and operated, or publicly  
15 owned and operated by the owner of a professional sports  
16 franchise or other lessee with sufficient expertise or  
17 financial capability to operate such facility, and to pay the  
18 planning and design costs incurred prior to the issuance of  
19 such bonds for a new professional sports franchise as defined  
20 in s. 288.1162.

21           b. The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or  
22 renovation of a facility either publicly owned and operated,  
23 or publicly owned and operated by the owner of a professional  
24 sports franchise or other lessee with sufficient expertise or  
25 financial capability to operate such facility, and to pay the  
26 planning and design costs incurred prior to the issuance of  
27 such bonds for a retained spring training franchise.

28           2. Promote and advertise tourism in the State of  
29 Florida and nationally and internationally; however, if tax  
30 revenues are expended for an activity, service, venue, or  
31 event, the activity, service, venue, or event shall have as

1 one of its main purposes the attraction of tourists as  
2 evidenced by the promotion of the activity, service, venue, or  
3 event to tourists.

4 3. Participate with the state in an economic  
5 development project for which additional revenues are needed  
6 to attract to the county high-technology industries, including  
7 information technology and communications, biotechnology,  
8 bioinformation, biomedical, electro-optics, life science,  
9 nanotechnology, and computer simulation.

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11 A county that imposes the tax authorized in this paragraph may  
12 not expend any ad valorem tax revenues for the acquisition,  
13 construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a facility for  
14 which tax revenues are used pursuant to subparagraph 1. The  
15 provision of paragraph (b) which prohibits any county  
16 authorized to levy a convention development tax pursuant to s.  
17 212.0305 from levying more than the 2-percent tax authorized  
18 by this section shall not apply to the additional tax  
19 authorized by this paragraph in counties which levy convention  
20 development taxes pursuant to s. 212.0305(4)(a). Subsection  
21 (4) does not apply to the adoption of the additional tax  
22 authorized in this paragraph. The effective date of the levy  
23 and imposition of the tax authorized under this paragraph is  
24 the first day of the second month following approval of the  
25 ordinance by the board of county commissioners or the first  
26 day of any subsequent month specified in the ordinance. A  
27 certified copy of such ordinance shall be furnished by the  
28 county to the Department of Revenue within 10 days after  
29 approval of the ordinance.

30 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
31 law.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Allows a county that levies a local option tourist development tax under s. 125.0104(3)(n), F.S., to use the tax proceeds to participate with the state in an economic-development project to attract specified types of high-technology industries to the county.