CHAMBER ACTION
Senate . House
Comm: RCS
4/2/2008

The Committee on Finance and Tax (Haridopolos) recommended the following amendment:

## Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between line(s) 94 and 95,
insert:
Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 125.0104, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
125.0104 Tourist development tax; procedure for levying; authorized uses; referendum; enforcement.--
(3) TAXABLE PRIVILEGES; EXEMPTIONS; LEVY; RATE.--
(a) It is declared to be the intent of the Legislature that every person who rents, leases, or lets for consideration any living quarters or accommodations in any hotel, apartment hotel, motel, resort motel, apartment, apartment motel, roominghouse, mobile home park, recreational vehicle park, or condominium, or timeshare resort for a term of 6 months or less is exercising a Page 1 of 12
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privilege which is subject to taxation under this section, unless such person rents, leases, or lets for consideration any living quarters or accommodations which are exempt according to the provisions of chapter 212.
(b) As used in this section, the terms "consideration," "rental," and "rents" mean the amount received by a person operating transient accommodations for the use or securing the use of any living quarters or sleeping or housekeeping accommodations in, from, or a part of, or in connection with any hotel, apartment house, roominghouse, timeshare resort, tourist or trailer camp, mobile home park, recreational vehicle park, or condominium. The phrase "person operating transient accommodations" means the person conducting the daily affairs of the physical facilities furnishing transient accommodations who is responsible for providing the services commonly associated with operating the facilities furnishing transient accommodations regardless of whether such commonly associated services are provided by third parties. The terms "consideration" and "rents" do not include payments received by unrelated persons for facilitating the booking of reservations for or on behalf of the lessees or licensees at hotels, apartment houses, roominghouses, timeshare resorts, tourist or trailer camps, mobile home parks, recreational vehicle parks, or condominiums in this state. "Unrelated person" means a person who is not in the same affiliated group of corporations pursuant to s. 1504 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
(c) Tax shall be due on the consideration paid for occupancy in the county pursuant to a regulated short-term product, as defined in chapter 721, or occupancy in the county pursuant to a product that would be deemed a regulated short-term

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product if the agreement to purchase the short-term right were executed in this state. Such tax shall be collected on the last day of occupancy within the county unless such consideration is applied to the purchase of a timeshare estate. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b), the occupancy of an accommodation of a timeshare resort pursuant to a timeshare plan, a multisite timeshare plan, or an exchange transaction in an exchange program, as defined in chapter 721, by the owner of a timeshare interest or such owner's guest, which guest is not paying monetary consideration to the owner or to a third party for the benefit of the owner, is not a privilege subject to taxation under this section. A membership or transaction fee paid by a timeshare owner which does not provide the timeshare owner with the right to occupy any specific timeshare unit but merely provides the timeshare owner with the opportunity to exchange a timeshare interest through an exchange program is a service charge and not subject to taxation.
(d) Consideration paid for the purchase of a timeshare license in a timeshare plan, as defined in chapter 721, is rent subject to taxation under this section.
(e) (b) Subject to the provisions of this section, any county in this state may levy and impose a tourist development tax on the exercise within its boundaries of the taxable privilege described in paragraph (a), except that there shall be no additional levy under this section in any cities or towns presently imposing a municipal resort tax as authorized under chapter 67-930, Laws of Florida, and this section shall not in any way affect the powers and existence of any tourist development authority created pursuant to chapter 67-930, Laws of Florida. No county authorized to levy a convention development

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tax pursuant to s. 212.0305, or to s. 8 of chapter 84-324, Laws of Florida, shall be allowed to levy more than the 2 -percent tax authorized by this section. A county may elect to levy and impose the tourist development tax in a subcounty special district of the county. However, if a county so elects to levy and impose the tax on a subcounty special district basis, the district shall embrace all or a significant contiguous portion of the county, and the county shall assist the Department of Revenue in identifying the rental units subject to tax in the district.
(f) (c) The tourist development tax shall be levied, imposed, and set by the governing board of the county at a rate of 1 percent or 2 percent of each dollar and major fraction of each dollar of the total consideration charged for such lease or rental. When receipt of consideration is by way of property other than money, the tax shall be levied and imposed on the fair market value of such nonmonetary consideration.
(g) In addition to any 1 -percent or 2 -percent tax imposed under paragraph (f) (f), the governing board of the county may levy, impose, and set an additional 1 percent of each dollar above the tax rate set under paragraph (f) (c) by the extraordinary vote of the governing board for the purposes set forth in subsection (5) or by referendum approval by the registered electors within the county or subcounty special district. No county shall levy, impose, and set the tax authorized under this paragraph unless the county has imposed the 1 -percent or 2 -percent tax authorized under paragraph (f) for a minimum of 3 years prior to the effective date of the levy and imposition of the tax authorized by this paragraph. Revenues raised by the additional tax authorized under this paragraph shall not be used for debt service on or refinancing of existing

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facilities as specified in subparagraph (5)(a)1. unless approved by a resolution adopted by an extraordinary majority of the total membership of the governing board of the county. If the 1-percent or 2 -percent tax authorized in paragraph (f) is levied within a subcounty special taxing district, the additional tax authorized in this paragraph shall only be levied therein. The provisions of paragraphs (4)(a)-(d) shall not apply to the adoption of the additional tax authorized in this paragraph. The effective date of the levy and imposition of the tax authorized under this paragraph shall be the first day of the second month following approval of the ordinance by the governing board or the first day of any subsequent month as may be specified in the ordinance. A certified copy of such ordinance shall be furnished by the county to the Department of Revenue within 10 days after approval of such ordinance.
(h) The tourist development tax shall be in addition to any other tax imposed pursuant to chapter 212 and in addition to all other taxes and fees and the consideration for the rental or lease.
(i)(f) The tourist development tax shall be charged by the person receiving the consideration for the lease or rental, and it shall be collected from the lessee, tenant, or customer at the time of payment of the consideration for such lease or rental. (j)(g) The person receiving the consideration for such rental or lease shall receive, account for, and remit the tax to the Department of Revenue at the time and in the manner provided for persons who collect and remit taxes under s. 212.03. The same duties and privileges imposed by chapter 212 upon dealers in tangible property, respecting the collection and remission of tax; the making of returns; the keeping of books, records, and Page 5 of 12

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accounts; and compliance with the rules of the Department of Revenue in the administration of that chapter shall apply to and be binding upon all persons who are subject to the provisions of this section. However, the Department of Revenue may authorize a quarterly return and payment when the tax remitted by the dealer for the preceding quarter did not exceed \$25.
(k) (h) The Department of Revenue shall keep records showing the amount of taxes collected, which records shall also include records disclosing the amount of taxes collected for and from each county in which the tax authorized by this section is applicable. These records shall be open for inspection during the regular office hours of the Department of Revenue, subject to the provisions of s. 213.053.
(l)(i) Collections received by the Department of Revenue from the tax, less costs of administration of this section, shall be paid and returned monthly to the county which imposed the tax, for use by the county in accordance with the provisions of this section. They shall be placed in the county tourist development trust fund of the respective county, which shall be established by each county as a condition precedent to receipt of such funds.
(m)(j) The Department of Revenue may is authorized to employ persons and incur other expenses for which funds are appropriated by the Legislature.
(n) (k) The Department of Revenue shall adopt promulgate such rules and shall prescribe and publish such forms as my be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section. The department may establish audit procedures to assess for delinquent taxes. The person operating transient accommodations shall state the tax separately from the rental charged on the receipt, invoice, or other documentation issued with respect to Page 6 of 12

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charges for transient accommodations. Persons facilitating the booking of reservations who are unrelated to the person operating the transient accommodations in which the reservation is booked are not required to separately state amounts charged on the receipt, invoice, or other documentation issued by the person facilitating the booking of the reservation. Any amounts specifically collected as a tax are county funds and must be remitted as tax.
(o)(l) In addition to any other tax which is imposed pursuant to this section, a county may impose up to an additional 1-percent tax on the exercise of the privilege described in paragraph (a) by majority vote of the governing board of the county in order to:

1. Pay the debt service on bonds issued to finance the construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a professional sports franchise facility, or the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a retained spring training franchise facility, either publicly owned and operated, or publicly owned and operated by the owner of a professional sports franchise or other lessee with sufficient expertise or financial capability to operate such facility, and to pay the planning and design costs incurred prior to the issuance of such bonds.
2. Pay the debt service on bonds issued to finance the construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a convention center, and to pay the planning and design costs incurred prior to the issuance of such bonds.
3. Pay the operation and maintenance costs of a convention center for a period of up to 10 years. Only counties that have elected to levy the tax for the purposes authorized in subparagraph 2. may use the tax for the purposes enumerated in Page 7 of 12

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this subparagraph. Any county that elects to levy the tax for the purposes authorized in subparagraph 2. after July 1, 2000, may use the proceeds of the tax to pay the operation and maintenance costs of a convention center for the life of the bonds.
4. Promote and advertise tourism in the State of Florida and nationally and internationally; however, if tax revenues are expended for an activity, service, venue, or event, the activity, service, venue, or event shall have as one of its main purposes the attraction of tourists as evidenced by the promotion of the activity, service, venue, or event to tourists.

The provision of paragraph (e) (b) which prohibits any county authorized to levy a convention development tax pursuant to s. 212.0305 from levying more than the 2 -percent tax authorized by this section, and the provisions of paragraphs (4)(a)-(d), shall not apply to the additional tax authorized in this paragraph. The effective date of the levy and imposition of the tax authorized under this paragraph shall be the first day of the second month following approval of the ordinance by the governing board or the first day of any subsequent month as may be specified in the ordinance. A certified copy of such ordinance shall be furnished by the county to the Department of Revenue within 10 days after approval of such ordinance.
(p) (m)1. In addition to any other tax which is imposed pursuant to this section, a high tourism impact county may impose an additional 1-percent tax on the exercise of the privilege described in paragraph (a) by extraordinary vote of the governing board of the county. The tax revenues received pursuant to this paragraph shall be used for one or more of the authorized uses pursuant to subsection (5).

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2. A county is considered to be a high tourism impact county after the Department of Revenue has certified to such county that the sales subject to the tax levied pursuant to this section exceeded $\$ 600$ million during the previous calendar year, or were at least 18 percent of the county's total taxable sales under chapter 212 where the sales subject to the tax levied pursuant to this section were a minimum of $\$ 200$ million, except that no county authorized to levy a convention development tax pursuant to s. 212.0305 shall be considered a high tourism impact county. Once a county qualifies as a high tourism impact county, it shall retain this designation for the period the tax is levied pursuant to this paragraph.
3. The provisions of paragraphs (4)(a)-(d) shall not apply to the adoption of the additional tax authorized in this paragraph. The effective date of the levy and imposition of the tax authorized under this paragraph shall be the first day of the second month following approval of the ordinance by the governing board or the first day of any subsequent month as may be specified in the ordinance. A certified copy of such ordinance shall be furnished by the county to the Department of Revenue within 10 days after approval of such ordinance.
(q) (n) In addition to any other tax that is imposed under this section, a county that has imposed the tax under paragraph (o) (l) may impose an additional tax that is no greater than 1 percent on the exercise of the privilege described in paragraph (a) by a majority plus one vote of the membership of the board of county commissioners in order to:

1. Pay the debt service on bonds issued to finance:
a. The construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a facility either publicly owned and operated, or publicly owned Page 9 of 12

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and operated by the owner of a professional sports franchise or other lessee with sufficient expertise or financial capability to operate such facility, and to pay the planning and design costs incurred prior to the issuance of such bonds for a new professional sports franchise as defined in s. 288.1162.
b. The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a facility either publicly owned and operated, or publicly owned and operated by the owner of a professional sports franchise or other lessee with sufficient expertise or financial capability to operate such facility, and to pay the planning and design costs incurred prior to the issuance of such bonds for a retained spring training franchise.
2. Promote and advertise tourism in the State of Florida and nationally and internationally; however, if tax revenues are expended for an activity, service, venue, or event, the activity, service, venue, or event shall have as one of its main purposes the attraction of tourists as evidenced by the promotion of the activity, service, venue, or event to tourists.

A county that imposes the tax authorized in this paragraph may not expend any ad valorem tax revenues for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or renovation of a facility for which tax revenues are used pursuant to subparagraph 1. The provision of paragraph (e) (b) which prohibits any county authorized to levy a convention development tax pursuant to s. 212.0305 from levying more than the 2 -percent tax authorized by this section shall not apply to the additional tax authorized by this paragraph in counties which levy convention development taxes pursuant to s. 212.0305(4)(a). Subsection (4) does not apply to the adoption of the additional tax authorized in this Page 10 of 12

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paragraph. The effective date of the levy and imposition of the tax authorized under this paragraph is the first day of the second month following approval of the ordinance by the board of county commissioners or the first day of any subsequent month specified in the ordinance. A certified copy of such ordinance shall be furnished by the county to the Department of Revenue within 10 days after approval of the ordinance.

Section 3. The amendments made by this act to s. 125.0104, Florida Statutes, are intended as clarifying and remedial in nature and are not a basis for assessments of tax for periods before July 1, 2008, or for refunds of tax for periods before July 1, 2008.
================= T T L E A M E N D M E N T ================== And the title is amended as follows:

On line(s) 4, after the first semicolon,
insert:
amending s. 125.0104, F.S.; revising the list of living quarters or accommodations that are subject to taxation; providing definitions; providing for taxation of regulated short-term products; providing that the occupancy of an accommodation of a timeshare resort and membership or transaction fee paid by a timeshare owner are not a privilege subject to taxation; providing that consideration paid for the purchase of a timeshare license in a timeshare plan is rent subject to taxation; authorizing the Department of Revenue to establish audit procedures and to access for delinquent taxes; requiring the person operating transient accommodations to separately state the tax charged on a receipt or other Page 11 of 12

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documentation; providing that persons facilitating the booking of reservations are not required to separately state tax amounts charged; requiring that such amounts be remitted as tax and classified as county funds; specifying that certain provisions of the act are clarifying and remedial in nature and are not a basis for assessments of tax or for refunds of tax for periods before the effective date of the act;

