

By: West

S.B. No. 154

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the funding of convention center hotel facilities in  
3 certain municipalities.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 351.001(2), Tax Code, is amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (2) "Convention center facilities" or "convention  
8 center complex" means facilities that are primarily used to host  
9 conventions and meetings. The term means civic centers, civic  
10 center buildings, auditoriums, exhibition halls, and coliseums  
11 that are owned by the municipality or other governmental entity or  
12 that are managed in whole or part by the municipality. In a  
13 municipality with a population of 1.18 [~~1.5~~] million or more,  
14 "convention center facilities" or "convention center complex"  
15 means civic centers, civic center buildings, auditoriums,  
16 exhibition halls, and coliseums that are owned by the municipality  
17 or other governmental entity or that are managed in part by the  
18 municipality, hotels owned by the municipality or a nonprofit  
19 municipally sponsored local government corporation created under  
20 Chapter 431, Transportation Code, within 1,000 feet of a convention  
21 center owned by the municipality, or a historic hotel owned by the  
22 municipality or a nonprofit municipally sponsored local government  
23 corporation created under Chapter 431, Transportation Code, within  
24 one mile of a convention center owned by the municipality. The term

1 includes parking areas or facilities that are for the parking or  
2 storage of conveyances and that are located at or in the vicinity of  
3 other convention center facilities. The term also includes a hotel  
4 owned by or located on land that is owned by an eligible central  
5 municipality or by a nonprofit corporation acting on behalf of an  
6 eligible central municipality and that is located within 1,000 feet  
7 of a convention center facility owned by the municipality.

8 SECTION 2. Section 351.102(a), Tax Code, is amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 (a) Subject to the limitations provided by this subchapter,  
11 a municipality may pledge the revenue derived from the tax imposed  
12 under this chapter for the payment of bonds that are issued under  
13 Section 1504.002(a), Government Code, for one or more of the  
14 purposes provided by Section 351.101 or, in the case of a  
15 municipality with a population of 1.18 million [~~1,500,000~~] or more,  
16 for the payment of principal of or interest on bonds or other  
17 obligations of a municipally sponsored local government  
18 corporation created under Chapter 431, Transportation Code, that  
19 were issued to pay the cost of the acquisition and construction of a  
20 convention center hotel or the cost of acquisition, remodeling, or  
21 rehabilitation of a historic hotel structure; provided, however,  
22 such pledge may only be that portion of the tax collected at such  
23 hotel.

24 SECTION 3. Section 1504.001(a), Government Code, is amended  
25 to read as follows:

26 (a) A municipality may establish, acquire, lease as lessee  
27 or lessor, construct, improve, enlarge, equip, repair, operate, or

1 maintain a facility such as:

2 (1) a civic center, auditorium, opera house, music  
3 hall, exhibition hall, coliseum, museum, library, or other  
4 municipal building;

5 (2) a golf course, tennis court, or other similar  
6 recreational facility;

7 (3) a hotel owned by a municipality or a nonprofit  
8 municipally sponsored local government corporation created under  
9 Chapter 431, Transportation Code, that is located not more than  
10 1,000 feet from a convention center owned by a municipality with a  
11 population of 1.18 million [~~1,500,000~~] or more;

12 (4) a historic hotel owned by a municipality or a  
13 nonprofit municipally sponsored local government corporation  
14 created under Chapter 431, Transportation Code, that is located not  
15 more than one mile from a convention center owned by a municipality  
16 with a population of 1.18 million [~~1,500,000~~] or more; or

17 (5) a parking facility at or in the immediate vicinity  
18 of a facility described by Subdivisions (1)-(4) for use in  
19 connection with that facility for off-street parking or storage of  
20 motor vehicles or other conveyances.

21 SECTION 4. Section 2303.003(8), Government Code, is amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 (8) "Qualified hotel project" means a hotel proposed  
24 to be constructed by a municipality or a nonprofit municipally  
25 sponsored local government corporation created under the Texas  
26 Transportation Corporation Act, Chapter 431, Transportation Code,  
27 that is within 1,000 feet of a convention center owned by a

1 municipality with [~~having~~] a population of 1.18 million [~~1,500,000~~]  
2 or more, including shops, parking facilities, and any other  
3 facilities ancillary to the hotel.

4 SECTION 5. Section 2303.5055(b), Government Code, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (b) A municipality with a population of 1.18 million  
7 [~~1,500,000~~] or more may agree to guarantee from hotel occupancy  
8 taxes the bonds or other obligations of a municipally sponsored  
9 local government corporation created under the Texas  
10 Transportation Corporation Act (Article 15281, Vernon's Texas  
11 Civil Statutes) that were issued or incurred to pay the cost of  
12 construction, remodeling, or rehabilitation of a qualified hotel  
13 project.

14 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
18 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.