

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 1397

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to venue projects in certain municipalities.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 334, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 334.009 to read as follows:

Sec. 334.009. VENUE PROJECTS IN CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES.

(a) This section applies only to a municipality that has a population of at least 176,000, that borders the Rio Grande, and that approved a sports and community venue project before January 1, 2009.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, including Section 334.089, after complying with Section 334.022, a municipality to which this section applies may hold an election under Section 334.024 on the question of approving and implementing a resolution to:

(1) authorize the municipality to plan, acquire, establish, develop, construct, or renovate a convention center and related infrastructure in the city limits of the municipality as part of an existing or previously approved sports and community venue project, regardless of whether the convention center is located on the premises of the existing or previously approved venue project;

(2) impose a tax under Subchapter H at a rate not to exceed two percent of the cost of a room; and

1           (3) authorize the municipality to finance, operate,  
2 and maintain the venue project described by Subdivision (1),  
3 including the convention center, using the revenue from any taxes  
4 imposed by the municipality under this chapter, including taxes  
5 previously approved in relation to the existing or previously  
6 approved venue project.

7           (c) If the resolution is approved by a majority of the votes  
8 cast in the election, the municipality may implement the  
9 resolution.

10           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.