By:  Harris (Senate Sponsor - Nichols) H.B. No. 3217

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2021; May 10, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources & Economic Development; May 21, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 21, 2021, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Birdwell        X

Zaffirini       X

Alvarado        X

Hancock         X

Hinojosa        X

Hughes          X

Kolkhorst       X

Lucio           X

Seliger         X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of certain counties to impose a hotel occupancy tax and the use of revenue from that tax.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 352.002, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (cc) to read as follows:

(cc)  The commissioners court of a county with a population of more than 57,000 and less than 65,000 and that is bordered by the Neches and Trinity Rivers may impose a tax as provided by Subsection (a).

SECTION 2.  Section 352.003, Tax Code, is amended by adding Subsection (aa) to read as follows:

(aa)  The tax rate in a county authorized to impose the tax under Section 352.002(cc) may not exceed two percent of the price paid for a room in a hotel.

SECTION 3.  Section 352.1037, Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 352.1037.  USE OF REVENUE:  CERTAIN COUNTIES BORDERING NECHES AND TRINITY RIVERS. (a) The revenue from a tax imposed under this chapter by a county authorized to impose the tax under Section 352.002(o) may be used only to operate and maintain a fairground in the county that has a substantial impact on tourism and hotel activity.

(b)  The revenue from a tax imposed under this chapter by a county authorized to impose the tax under Section 352.002(cc) may be used to repair and renovate a civic center owned by the county in addition to the other purposes authorized by this chapter.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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