H.B. No. 1689

AN ACT

relating to the use of county hotel occupancy tax revenue for an electronic tax administration system and the reimbursement of tax collection expenses.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 352.005, Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 352.005.  REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES OF TAX COLLECTION AND USE OF ELECTRONIC TAX ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM [~~EXPENSES~~]. (a) A county may permit a person who is required to collect and pay over to the county the tax authorized by this chapter to withhold not more than one percent of the amount collected and required to be reported as reimbursement to the person for the cost of [~~costs in~~] collecting the tax.

(b)  If a county uses revenue derived from the tax authorized by this chapter to create, maintain, operate, or administer an electronic tax administration system as authorized by Section 352.1016, the county shall permit a person who is required to collect and pay over to the county the tax authorized by this chapter to withhold not more than one percent of the amount of the tax collected and required to be reported as reimbursement to the person for the cost of collecting the tax.

(c)  The county may provide that the reimbursement provided or required by this section be forfeited because of a failure to pay the tax authorized by this chapter or to file a report related to that tax as required by the county.

SECTION 2.  Subchapter B, Chapter 352, Tax Code, is amended by adding Section 352.1016 to read as follows:

Sec. 352.1016.  ELECTRONIC TAX ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a county may spend each year not more than the lesser of two percent or $75,000 of the revenue derived from the tax authorized by this chapter during that year for the creation, maintenance, operation, and administration of an electronic tax administration system to administer the tax authorized by this chapter. A county may not use revenue the county is authorized to spend under this section to conduct an audit.

(b)  A county may contract with a third party to assist in the creation, maintenance, operation, or administration of an electronic tax administration system.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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    President of the Senate Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1689 was passed by the House on April 26, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 142, Nays 4, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1689 was passed by the Senate on May 17, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 27, Nays 4.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                    Date

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                  Governor