

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011**

**HOUSE BILL 96
RATIFIED BILL**

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE ALLEGHANY AND JACKSON COUNTIES AND THE TOWNS OF GROVER AND SWANSBORO TO LEVY AN ADDITIONAL THREE PERCENT ROOM OCCUPANCY AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT TAX AND TO MAKE OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

PART I: ALLEGHANY COUNTY OCCUPANCY TAX

SECTION 1. Chapter 162 of the 1991 Session Laws, as amended by S.L. 2004-106, reads as rewritten:

"Section 1. Occupancy tax. (a) ~~Authorization and scope.~~ Scope. – The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners may levy a room occupancy tax of three percent (3%) of the gross receipts derived from the rental of any room, lodging, or accommodation furnished by a hotel, motel, inn, tourist camp, or similar place within the county that is subject to sales tax imposed by the State under G.S. 105-164.4(a)(3). This tax is in addition to any State or local sales tax. This tax does not apply to accommodations furnished by a summer camp for minors, or by a nonprofit charitable, educational, or religious organization.

(a1) Authorization of Additional Tax. – In addition to the tax authorized by subsection (a) of this section, the Alleghany County Board of Commissioners may levy an additional room occupancy tax of up to three percent (3%) of the gross receipts derived from the rental of accommodations taxable under subsection (a) of this section. The levy, collection, administration, and repeal of the tax authorized by this subsection shall be in accordance with the provisions of this section. Alleghany County may not levy a tax under this subsection unless it also levies the tax authorized under subsection (a) of this section.

(b) Repealed.

(c) Administration. – A tax levied under this section shall be levied, administered, collected, and repealed as provided in G.S. 153A-155. The penalties provided in G.S. 153A-155 apply to a tax levied under this section.

(d) Repealed.

(e) ~~Distribution and use of tax revenue.~~ Use of Tax Revenue. – Except as otherwise provided in this act, Alleghany County shall, on a quarterly basis, remit one hundred percent (100%) of the net proceeds of the occupancy tax to the Alleghany County Chamber of Commerce. The chamber of commerce shall use at least two-thirds of the funds remitted to it under this subsection to promote travel and tourism in Alleghany County and shall use the remainder for tourism-related expenditures. The chamber of commerce shall report quarterly and at the close of the fiscal year to the Alleghany County Board of Commissioners on its receipts and expenditures for the preceding quarter and for the year in such detail as the board may require.

When the Alleghany County Board of Commissioners adopts a resolution levying a room occupancy tax under subsection (a1) of this section the resolution shall require that the county remit, on a quarterly basis, one hundred percent (100%) of the net proceeds of the occupancy tax levied under this act to the Alleghany Tourism Development Authority. The Authority shall use at least two-thirds of the funds remitted to it under this subsection to promote travel and tourism in Alleghany County and shall use the remainder for tourism-related expenditures.

The following definitions apply in this subsection:

- (1) Net proceeds. – Gross proceeds less the cost to the county of administering and collecting the tax, as determined by the finance officer, not to exceed three percent (3%) of the first five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) of



gross proceeds collected each year and one percent (1%) of the remaining gross receipts collected each year.

- (2) Promote travel and tourism. – To advertise or market an area or activity, publish and distribute pamphlets and other materials, conduct market research, or engage in similar promotional activities that attract tourists or business travelers to the area. The term includes administrative expenses incurred in engaging in the listed activities.
- (3) Tourism-related expenditures. – Expenditures that, in the judgment of the entity responsible for expending the net proceeds of the tax, are designed to increase the use of lodging facilities, meeting facilities, or convention facilities in a county or to attract tourists or business travelers to the county. The term includes tourism-related capital expenditures.

(f) Repealed.

(g) Repealed.

"Sec. 1.1. Allegheny Tourism Development Authority. – (a) Appointment and Membership. – When the ~~annual net proceeds of the occupancy tax exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), the Allegheny Board of Commissioners~~ adopts a resolution levying a room occupancy tax under subsection (a1) of this section, it shall adopt a resolution creating a county Tourism Development Authority, which shall be a public authority under the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. The resolution shall provide for the membership of the Authority, including the members' terms of office, and for the filing of vacancies on the Authority. At least ~~one-third-one-third~~ of the members must be individuals who are affiliated with businesses that collect the tax in the county, and at least ~~three-fourths-one-half~~ of the members must be individuals who are currently active in the promotion of travel and tourism in the county. The board of commissioners shall designate one member of the Authority as chair and shall determine the compensation, if any, to be paid to the members of the Authority.

The Authority shall meet at the call of the chair and shall adopt rules of procedure to govern its meetings. The Finance Officer for Allegheny County shall be the ex officio finance officer of the Authority.

"Sec. 1.2. Duties. – If the board of commissioners establishes a Tourism Development Authority as provided in Section 1.1 of this act, then the Authority shall expend the net proceeds of the tax levied under this Act for the purposes provided in this Act. The Authority shall promote travel, tourism, and conventions in the county, sponsor tourist-related events and activities in the county, and finance tourist-related capital projects in the county.

"Sec. 1.3. Reports. – If the board of commissioners establishes a Tourism Development Authority as provided in Section 1.1 of this act, then the Authority shall report quarterly and at the close of the fiscal year to the Allegheny County Board of Commissioners on its receipts and expenditures for the preceding quarter and for the year in such detail as the board may require.

"Sec. 2. This act is effective upon ratification."

PART II: JACKSON COUNTY OCCUPANCY TAX

SECTION 2.1. Chapter 969 of the 1985 Session Laws, as amended by Chapters 118 and 195 of the 1987 Session Laws and Section 21(k) of S.L. 2007-527, and only as it applies to Jackson County, is rewritten and recodified as Part II of this act. Part II of this act does not affect the rights or liabilities of the county, a taxpayer, or another person arising under the law rewritten and recodified by this Part before the effective date of this Part, nor does it affect the right to any refund or credit of a tax that accrued under the law rewritten and recodified by this Part before the effective date of this Part.

SECTION 2.2. Occupancy tax. – (a) Authorization and Scope. – The Jackson County Board of Commissioners may levy a room occupancy tax of three percent (3%) of the gross receipts derived from the rental of any room, lodging, or accommodation furnished by a hotel, motel, inn, tourist camp, or similar place within the county that is subject to sales tax imposed by the State under G.S. 105-164.4(a)(3). This tax is in addition to any State or local sales tax. This tax does not apply to accommodations furnished by nonprofit charitable, educational, or religious organizations when furnished in furtherance of their nonprofit purpose.

(a1) Authorization of Additional Tax. – In addition to the tax authorized by subsection (a) of this section, the Jackson County Board of Commissioners may levy an additional room occupancy tax of up to three percent (3%) of the gross receipts derived from the rental of

accommodations taxable under subsection (a) of this section. The levy, collection, administration, and repeal of the tax authorized by this subsection shall be in accordance with the provisions of this section. Jackson County may not levy a tax under this subsection unless it also levies the tax authorized under subsection (a) of this section.

SECTION 2.2.(b) Administration. – A tax levied under this Part shall be levied, administered, collected, and repealed as provided in G.S. 153A-155. The penalties provided in G.S. 153A-155 apply to a tax levied under this Part.

SECTION 2.2.(c) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this Part:

- (1) Net proceeds. – Gross proceeds less the cost to the county of administering and collecting the tax, as determined by the finance officer, not to exceed three percent (3%) of the first five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) of gross proceeds collected each year and one percent (1%) of the remaining gross proceeds collected each year.
- (2) Promote travel and tourism. – To advertise or market an area or activity, publish and distribute pamphlets and other materials, conduct market research, or engage in similar promotional activities that attract tourists or business travelers to the area. The term includes administrative expenses incurred in engaging in the listed activities.
- (3) Tourism-related expenditures. – Expenditures that, in the judgment of the Jackson County Tourism Development Authority, are designed to increase the use of lodging facilities, meeting facilities, or convention facilities in the county or to attract tourists or business travelers to the county. The term includes tourism-related capital expenditures.

SECTION 2.2.(d) Distribution and Use of Tax Revenue. – Jackson County shall, on a quarterly basis, remit the net proceeds of the occupancy tax levied under this Part to the Jackson County Tourism Development Authority. The Authority shall use at least two-thirds of the funds remitted to it under this subsection to promote travel and tourism in Jackson County and shall use the remainder for tourism-related expenditures.

SECTION 2.3. Tourism Development Authority. – (a) Appointment and Membership. – When the Jackson County Board of Commissioners adopts a resolution levying a room occupancy tax under this Part, it shall also adopt a resolution creating the Jackson County Tourism Development Authority, which shall be a public authority under the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. The resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners shall provide for the membership of the Authority, including the members' terms of office, and for the filling of vacancies on the Authority. At least one-third of the members shall be individuals who are affiliated with businesses that collect the tax in the county, and at least one-half of the members shall be individuals who are currently active in the promotion of travel and tourism in the county. The Board of Commissioners shall designate one member of the Authority as chair and shall determine the compensation, if any, to be paid to members of the Authority.

The Authority shall meet at the call of the chair and shall adopt rules of procedure to govern its meetings. The Finance Officer for Jackson County shall be the ex officio finance officer of the Authority.

SECTION 2.3.(b) Duties. – The Authority shall expend the net proceeds of the tax levied under this Part for the purposes provided in Section 2.2 of this Part. The Authority shall promote travel, tourism, and conventions in the county, sponsor tourist-related events and activities in the county, and finance tourist-related capital projects in the county.

SECTION 2.3.(c) Reports. – The Authority shall report quarterly and at the close of the fiscal year to the Jackson County Board of Commissioners on its receipts and expenditures for the preceding quarter and for the year in such detail as the Board of Commissioners may require.

SECTION 2.4. Section 3 of Chapter 969 of the 1985 Session Laws reads as rewritten:

"Sec. 3. This act applies only to the following counties: Graham, Clay, ~~Jackson~~, Durham, Macon, Polk, and Transylvania."

SECTION 2.5. Section 3 of Chapter 118 of the 1987 Session Laws reads as rewritten:

"Sec. 3. This act applies only to the following counties: Clay, Graham, ~~Jackson~~, and Macon."

SECTION 2.6. Section 2 of Chapter 195 of the 1987 Session Laws reads as rewritten:

"Sec. 2. This act applies only to the following counties: Clay, Graham, ~~Jackson~~, and Macon."

PART III: TOWN OF GROVER

SECTION 3.1. Occupancy tax. – (a) Authorization and Scope. – The Grover Town Council may levy a room occupancy tax of up to three percent (3%) of the gross receipts derived from the rental of any room, lodging, or accommodation furnished by a hotel, motel, inn, tourist camp, or similar place within the town that is subject to sales tax imposed by the State under G.S. 105-164.4(a)(3). This tax is in addition to any State or local sales tax. This tax does not apply to accommodations furnished by nonprofit charitable, educational, or religious organizations when furnished in furtherance of their nonprofit purpose.

SECTION 3.1.(b) Administration. – A tax levied under this section shall be levied, administered, collected, and repealed as provided in G.S. 160A-215. The penalties provided in G.S. 160A-215 apply to a tax levied under this section.

SECTION 3.1.(c) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this act:

- (1) Net proceeds. – Gross proceeds less the cost to the town of administering and collecting the tax, as determined by the finance officer, not to exceed three percent (3%) of the first five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) of gross proceeds collected each year and one percent (1%) of the remaining gross proceeds collected each year.
- (2) Promote travel and tourism. – To advertise or market an area or activity, publish and distribute pamphlets and other materials, conduct market research, or engage in similar promotional activities that attract tourists or business travelers to the area. The term includes administrative expenses incurred in engaging in the listed activities.
- (3) Tourism-related expenditures. – Expenditures that, in the judgment of the Grover Tourism Development Authority, are designed to increase the use of lodging facilities, meeting facilities, or convention facilities in the town or to attract tourists or business travelers to the town. The term includes tourism-related capital expenditures.

SECTION 3.1.(d) Distribution and Use of Tax Revenue. – The Town of Grover shall, on a quarterly basis, remit the net proceeds of the occupancy tax to the Grover Tourism Development Authority. The Authority shall use at least two-thirds of the funds remitted to it under this subsection to promote travel and tourism in the Town of Grover and shall use the remainder for tourism-related expenditures.

SECTION 3.2. Tourism Development Authority. – (a) Appointment and Membership. – When the Town Council adopts a resolution levying a room occupancy tax under this act, it shall also adopt a resolution creating the Grover Tourism Development Authority, which shall be a public authority under the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. The resolution shall provide for the membership of the Authority, including the members' terms of office, and for the filling of vacancies on the Authority. At least one-third of the members shall be individuals who are affiliated with businesses that collect the tax in the town, and at least one-half of the members shall be individuals who are currently active in the promotion of travel and tourism in the town. The Grover Town Council shall designate one member of the Authority as chair and shall determine the compensation, if any, to be paid to members of the Authority.

The Authority shall meet at the call of the chair and shall adopt rules of procedure to govern its meetings. The Finance Officer for the Town of Grover shall be the ex officio finance officer of the Authority.

SECTION 3.2.(b) Duties. – The Authority shall expend the net proceeds of the tax levied under this act for the purposes provided in Section 3.1(d) of this act. The Authority shall promote travel, tourism, and conventions in the town, sponsor tourist-related events and activities in the town, and finance tourist-related capital projects in the town.

SECTION 3.2.(c) Reports. – The Authority shall report quarterly and at the close of the fiscal year to the Grover Town Council on its receipts and expenditures for the preceding quarter and for the year in such detail as the Town Council may require.

PART IV: TOWN OF SWANSBORO

SECTION 4.1. Occupancy tax. – (a) Authorization and Scope. – The Swansboro Board of Commissioners may levy a room occupancy tax of up to three percent (3%) of the gross receipts derived from the rental of any room, lodging, or accommodation furnished by a hotel, motel, inn, tourist camp, or similar place within the town that is subject to sales tax imposed by the State under G.S. 105-164.4(a)(3). This tax is in addition to any State or local sales tax. This tax does not apply to accommodations furnished by nonprofit charitable, educational, or religious organizations when furnished in furtherance of their nonprofit purpose.

SECTION 4.1.(b) Administration. – A tax levied under this section shall be levied, administered, collected, and repealed as provided in G.S. 160A-215. The penalties provided in G.S. 160A-215 apply to a tax levied under this section.

SECTION 4.1.(c) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this act:

- (1) Net proceeds. – Gross proceeds less the cost to the town of administering and collecting the tax, as determined by the finance officer, not to exceed three percent (3%) of the first five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) of gross proceeds collected each year and one percent (1%) of the remaining gross proceeds collected each year.
- (2) Promote travel and tourism. – To advertise or market an area or activity, publish and distribute pamphlets and other materials, conduct market research, or engage in similar promotional activities that attract tourists or business travelers to the area. The term includes administrative expenses incurred in engaging in the listed activities.
- (3) Tourism-related expenditures. – Expenditures that, in the judgment of the Swansboro Tourism Development Authority, are designed to increase the use of lodging facilities, meeting facilities, or convention facilities in the town or to attract tourists or business travelers to the town. The term includes tourism-related capital expenditures.

SECTION 4.1.(d) Distribution and Use of Tax Revenue. – The Town of Swansboro shall, on a quarterly basis, remit the net proceeds of the occupancy tax to the Swansboro Tourism Development Authority. The Authority shall use at least two-thirds of the funds remitted to it under this subsection to promote travel and tourism in the Town of Swansboro and shall use the remainder for tourism-related expenditures.

SECTION 4.2. Tourism Development Authority. – (a) Appointment and Membership. – When the Board of Commissioners adopts a resolution levying a room occupancy tax under this act, it shall also adopt a resolution creating the Swansboro Tourism Development Authority, which shall be a public authority under the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. The resolution shall provide for the membership of the Authority, including the members' terms of office, and for the filling of vacancies on the Authority. At least one-third of the members shall be individuals who are affiliated with businesses that collect the tax in the town, and at least one-half of the members shall be individuals who are currently active in the promotion of travel and tourism in the town. The Swansboro Board of Commissioners shall designate one member of the Authority as chair and shall determine the compensation, if any, to be paid to members of the Authority.

The Authority shall meet at the call of the chair and shall adopt rules of procedure to govern its meetings. The Finance Officer for the Town of Swansboro shall be the ex officio finance officer of the Authority.

SECTION 4.2.(b) Duties. – The Authority shall expend the net proceeds of the tax levied under this act for the purposes provided in Section 3.1 of this act. The Authority shall promote travel, tourism, and conventions in the town, sponsor tourist-related events and activities in the town, and finance tourist-related capital projects in the town.

SECTION 4.2.(c) Reports. – The Authority shall report quarterly and at the close of the fiscal year to the Swansboro Board of Commissioners on its receipts and expenditures for the preceding quarter and for the year in such detail as the Swansboro Board of Commissioners may require.

PART IV: ADMINISTRATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE

SECTION 5. G.S. 153A-155(g) reads as rewritten:

"(g) Applicability. – Subsection (c) of this section applies to all counties and county districts that levy an occupancy tax. To the extent subsection (c) conflicts with any provision of a local act, subsection (c) supersedes that provision. The remainder of this section applies only to Alleghany, Anson, Brunswick, Buncombe, Burke, Cabarrus, Camden, Carteret, Caswell, Chatham, Cherokee, Chowan, Clay, Craven, Cumberland, Currituck, Dare, Davie, Duplin, Durham, Forsyth, Franklin, Granville, Halifax, Haywood, Jackson, Madison, Martin, McDowell, Montgomery, Nash, New Hanover, New Hanover County District U, Northampton, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Person, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham, Rowan, Sampson, Scotland, Stanly, Swain, Transylvania, Tyrrell, Vance, Washington, and Wilson Counties, to Surry County District S, to Watauga County District U, to Wilkes County District K, to Yadkin County District Y, and to the Township of Averagesboro in Harnett County and the Ocracoke Township Taxing District."

SECTION 6. G.S. 160A-215(g) reads as rewritten:

"(g) Applicability. – Subsection (c) of this section applies to all cities that levy an occupancy tax. To the extent subsection (c) conflicts with any provision of a local act, subsection (c) supersedes that provision. The remainder of this section applies only to Beech Mountain District W, to the Cities of Belmont, Conover, Eden, Elizabeth City, Gastonia, Goldsboro, Greensboro, Hickory, High Point, Jacksonville, Kings Mountain, Lenoir, Lexington, Lincolnton, Lowell, Lumberton, Monroe, Mount Airy, Mount Holly, Reidsville, Roanoke Rapids, Salisbury, Shelby, Statesville, Washington, and Wilmington, to the Towns of Ahoskie, Beech Mountain, Benson, Bermuda Run, Blowing Rock, Boiling Springs, Boone, Burgaw, Carolina Beach, Carrboro, Cooleemee, Cramerton, Dallas, Dobson, Elkin, Franklin, Grover, Jonesville, Kenly, Kure Beach, Leland, McAdenville, Mocksville, Mooresville, Murfreesboro, North Topsail Beach, Pembroke, Pilot Mountain, Ranlo, Selma, Smithfield, St. Pauls, Swansboro, Troutman, Tryon, West Jefferson, Wilkesboro, Wrightsville Beach, Yadkinville, and Yanceyville, and to the municipalities in Avery and Brunswick Counties."

SECTION 7. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 17th day of June, 2011.

Walter H. Dalton
President of the Senate

Thom Tillis
Speaker of the House of Representatives