
HOUSE BILL 2246

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Thomas and Dunshee

Read first time 02/25/1999. Referred to Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT Relating to lodging tax advisory committees; and amending
2 RCW 67.28.1817.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 67.28.1817 and 1998 c 35 s 3 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Before proposing imposition of a new tax under this chapter, an
7 increase in the rate of a tax imposed under this chapter, repeal of an
8 exemption from a tax imposed under this chapter, or a change in the use
9 of revenue received under this chapter, a municipality with a
10 population of five thousand or more shall establish a lodging tax
11 advisory committee under this section. A lodging tax advisory
12 committee shall consist of at least five members, appointed by the
13 legislative body of the municipality, unless the municipality has a
14 charter providing for a different appointment authority. The committee
15 membership shall ~~((include))~~ consist of the following: (a) At least
16 two members who are representatives of businesses required to collect
17 tax under this chapter; ~~((and))~~ (b) at least two members who are
18 persons involved in activities authorized to be funded by revenue
19 received under this chapter; and (c) one member who is an elected

1 official of the municipality who shall serve as chair. Persons who are
2 eligible for appointment under (a) of this subsection are not eligible
3 for appointment under (b) of this subsection. (~~Persons who are~~
4 ~~eligible for appointment under (b) of this subsection are not eligible~~
5 ~~for appointment under (a) of this subsection.~~) Organizations
6 representing businesses required to collect tax under this chapter,
7 organizations involved in activities authorized to be funded by revenue
8 received under this chapter, and local agencies involved in tourism
9 promotion may submit recommendations for membership on the committee.
10 The number of members who are representatives of businesses required to
11 collect tax under this chapter shall equal the number of members who
12 are involved in activities authorized to be funded by revenue received
13 under this chapter. (~~One member shall be an elected official of the~~
14 ~~municipality who shall serve as chair of the committee.~~) An advisory
15 committee for a county may include one nonvoting member who is an
16 elected official of a city or town in the county. An advisory
17 committee for a city or town may include one nonvoting member who is an
18 elected official of the county in which the city or town is located.
19 The appointing authority shall review the membership of the advisory
20 committee annually and make changes as appropriate.

21 (2) Any municipality that proposes imposition of a tax under this
22 chapter, an increase in the rate of a tax imposed under this chapter,
23 repeal of an exemption from a tax imposed under this chapter, or a
24 change in the use of revenue received under this chapter shall submit
25 the proposal to the lodging tax advisory committee for review and
26 comment. The submission shall occur at least forty-five days before
27 final action on or passage of the proposal by the municipality. The
28 advisory committee shall submit comments on the proposal in a timely
29 manner through generally applicable public comment procedures. The
30 comments shall include an analysis of the extent to which the proposal
31 will accommodate activities for tourists or increase tourism, and the
32 extent to which the proposal will affect the long-term stability of the
33 fund created under RCW 67.28.1815. Failure of the advisory committee
34 to submit comments before final action on or passage of the proposal
35 shall not prevent the municipality from acting on the proposal. A
36 municipality is not required to submit an amended proposal to an
37 advisory committee under this section.

38 (3) If a municipality with a population of less than five thousand
39 establishes a lodging tax advisory committee, then the committee shall

- 1 be composed according to subsection (1) of this section and shall
- 2 follow the procedures according to subsection (2) of this section.

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