HCS SCS SB 758 -- LOCAL TAXES

SPONSOR: Griesheimer (Nieves)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Local Government by a vote of 14 to 0.

This substitute changes the laws regarding local taxation. In its main provisions, the substitute:

(1) Authorizes the governing bodies of the cities of Pacific, Sullivan, Union, Riverside, and Clinton, upon voter approval, to impose a transient guest tax for at least 2% but not more than 5%;

(2) Authorizes Andrew County, upon voter approval, to impose a sales tax not to exceed one-fifth of 1% on retail sales within the county to be used solely for museums;

(3) Prohibits the City of Edmundson from levying and collecting a license tax on hotels and motels in an amount in excess $21.50 per room per year and the City of Woodson Terrace an amount in excess of $11 per room per year; and

(4) Repeals Shannon County's authorization to impose a tourist attraction ticket surcharge or transient guest tax.

The substitute contains an emergency clause.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Income on General Revenue Fund of Unknown in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007. Expected to be less than $100,000. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will provide revenue to promote tourism.

Testifying for the bill was Senator Griesheimer.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Julie Jinkens McNitt, Legislative Analyst