HB 69 -- TRANSIENT GUEST TAX IN PULASKI COUNTY

SPONSOR: Day

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Special Committee on Tourism by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill specifies that in Pulaski County, for the purpose of collecting a transient guest tax, the term "transient guest" means a person who occupies a room in a hotel or motel for 90 days or less during any calendar quarter.

The bill also repeals a duplicate version of this provision enacted in 1998.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill extends a taxable stay in a hotel or motel from 30 to 90 days, but only in Pulaski County. Pulaski County has many hotel guests who stay for long periods of time because of their work at Ft. Leonard Wood. Changing the meaning will allow hotels to charge the transient guest tax for the entire length of the guest's stay, which will help boost Pulaski County's economy.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Day; and Pulaski County Tourism Bureau.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.