

HCS SB 81 -- PROMOTION OF LOCAL TOURISM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SPONSOR: Griesheimer (Schlottach)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Local Government by a vote of 11 to 0.

Currently, the City of Sullivan is authorized to levy a transient guest tax between 2% and 5% per room per night to be used for the promotion of tourism. This substitute allows Franklin County to impose the same tax, upon voter approval, in the Sullivan C-II School District which is partially located in both the city and the county.

The City of Gladstone is also authorized to impose, upon voter approval, a transient guest tax of up to 5% on hotel and motel rooms to be used for the promotion of tourism.

Currently, only St. Charles County and its municipalities are allowed to form a theater, cultural arts, and entertainment district. The substitute allows the governing body of any county or city that has adopted transect-based zoning under Chapter 89, RSMo, and the counties of Franklin, Clay, Jackson, Boone, or Jasper and their municipalities to form a district.

The substitute also:

- (1) Allows the district to fund infrastructure projects;
- (2) Reduces the number of contiguous acres the district must include from 50 to 25;
- (3) Requires, instead of allows, the governing body of the city or county in which a district is proposed to pass a resolution describing the district when a petition for its creation is filed;
- (4) Defines the term "transect-based zoning"; and
- (5) Repeals the duplicate of Section 67.2505.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Income on General Revenue Fund of \$0 to Unknown in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

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

Testifying for the bill were Senator Griesheimer; and Whittaker Builders, Incorporated.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.