SS SB 1000 -- THE DIVISION OF TOURISM SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE FUND

SPONSOR: Hudson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Special Committee on Tourism by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative by a vote of 9 to 0.

Prior to July 1, 2020, the Division of Tourism Supplemental Revenue Fund was funded by appropriations from certain tourism-related taxes. There was a formula to determine how much money the state treasurer was required to deposit into the fund each year. The provisions requiring that process expired on June 30, 2020. This bill provides that the fund will now consist of any moneys appropriated by the General Assembly and any gifts, contributions, grants, or bequests from federal, private, or other sources.

Currently, prior to each appropriation from the Fund, the Division of Tourism must present to the Committee on Tourism, Recreational and Cultural Affairs of the House of Representatives and to the Transportation and Tourism Committee of the Senate a promotional marketing strategy. This bill updates the committees to the Special Committee on Tourism of the House of Representatives and to the Economic and Workforce Development Committee of the Senate.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill removes a sunset and keeps a fund available for the use of promoting tourism.

Testifying in person for the bill was Senator Hudson.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.