

SCS SB 644 -- TRANSIENT GUEST TAXES

SPONSOR: Shields (Conway)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Tourism by a vote of 8 to 1.

This substitute authorizes the City of Jefferson City to impose, upon voter approval, a transient guest tax of up to 7% per occupied room per night for promoting the city as a convention, visitor, and tourist center.

Currently, the City of St. Joseph and Buchanan County are authorized to impose a transient guest tax of between 2% and 8% for the promotion of tourism and convention facilities. The substitute allows them to use revenue from this tax for capital expenditures related to those purposes and authorizes the City of St. Joseph to contract with Buchanan County to share tax revenues to promote tourism and for the construction, maintenance, and improvement of a convention center and recreational facilities.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2011, FY 2012, and FY 2013.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will allow Jefferson City to raise money for a convention center and St. Joseph and Buchanan County to contract with each other to use the revenue they currently receive from a tourism and a convention center tax.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Conway for Senator Shields.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.