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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

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A N A C T

RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND
COMPUTATION

Introduced By: Representatives Carson, and Abney

Date Introduced: April 03, 2024

Referred To: House Finance

(City of Newport)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 44-18-36.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-18 entitled "Sales and
2 Use Taxes — Liability and Computation" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **44-18-36.1. Hotel tax.**

4 (a) There is imposed a hotel tax of five percent (5%) upon the total consideration charged
5 for occupancy of any space furnished by any hotel, travel packages, or room reseller or reseller as
6 defined in § 44-18-7.3(b) in this state. A house, condominium, or other resident dwelling shall be
7 exempt from the five percent (5%) hotel tax under this subsection if the house, condominium, or
8 other resident dwelling is rented in its entirety. The hotel tax is in addition to any sales tax imposed.
9 This hotel tax is administered and collected by the division of taxation and unless provided to the
10 contrary in this chapter, all the administration, collection, and other provisions of chapters 18 and
11 19 of this title apply. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit the powers of the convention
12 authority of the city of Providence established pursuant to the provisions of chapter 84 of the public
13 laws of 1980, except that distribution of hotel tax receipts shall be made pursuant to chapter 63.1
14 of title 42 rather than chapter 84 of the public laws of 1980.

15 (b) There is hereby levied and imposed, upon the total consideration charged for occupancy
16 of any space furnished by any hotel in this state, in addition to all other taxes and fees now imposed
17 by law, a local hotel tax at a rate of one percent (1%) and in the city of Newport, an additional local
18 hotel tax at a rate of two and one-half percent (2.5%), to be retained and used for its public

1 [infrastructure and resiliency purposes](#). The local hotel tax shall be administered and collected in
2 accordance with subsection (a).

3 (c) All sums received by the division of taxation from the local hotel tax, penalties or
4 forfeitures, interest, costs of suit and fines shall be distributed at least quarterly, credited and paid
5 by the state treasurer to the city or town where the space for occupancy that is furnished by the
6 hotel is located. Unless provided to the contrary in this chapter, all of the administration, collection,
7 and other provisions of chapters 18 and 19 of this title shall apply.

8 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the city of Newport
9 shall have the authority to collect from hotels located in the city of Newport the tax imposed by
10 subsection (a) of this section.

11 (1) Within ten (10) days of collection of the tax, the city of Newport shall distribute the tax
12 as provided in § 42-63.1-3. No later than the first day of March and the first day of September in
13 each year in which the tax is collected, the city of Newport shall submit to the division of taxation
14 a report of the tax collected and distributed during the six (6) month period ending thirty (30) days
15 prior to the reporting date.

16 (2) The city of Newport shall have the same authority as the division of taxation to recover
17 delinquent hotel taxes pursuant to chapter 44-19, and the amount of any hotel tax, penalty and
18 interest imposed by the city of Newport until collected constitutes a lien on the real property of the
19 taxpayer.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would impose an additional local hotel tax in the city of Newport, at a rate of two
2 and one-half percent (2.5%) to be retained and used for its public infrastructure and resiliency
3 purposes.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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