

February 19, 2001

S 174. FURNITURE MARKET IMPROVEMENT ACT (=H 163). *TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF HIGH POINT TO FUND FURNITURE MARKET IMPROVEMENTS.* Authorizes High Point City Council to levy a room occupancy tax and a furniture showroom privilege license tax. Occupancy tax levy authorized up to 3% of gross receipts derived from rental of commercial lodging subject to state sales tax. Excludes accommodations furnished by nonprofit organizations for nonprofit purposes. Provides for resolution, levy, administration, collection, and repeal under GS 160A-215. Furniture showroom privilege license tax may be levied, by ordinance, after not less than 10 day's public notice and public hearing. Levy applies only to persons engaged in the business of operating a wholesale home furnishing showroom, as defined in the act. Sets ceiling on tax rate at 15 cents per square foot, subject to a minimum tax of \$250 per location. Permits tax to become effective no earlier than July 1 following its levy. Provides for administration, tax base and rate, and lien and penalties. For both new taxes, directs city to use net proceeds for furniture market promotion and visitor assistance as defined in the act. Limits city administration costs to no more than 3% of the first \$500,000 of gross proceeds each year and 1% of remaining gross receipts. Permits city to contract with a nonprofit agency to carryout the authorized uses.

Intro. by Hagan.

Ref. to Finance	GUILFORD
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