

March 28, 2007

**H 1204. LENOIR OCCUPANCY TAX.** Filed 3/28/07. *TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF LENOIR TO LEVY A ROOM OCCUPANCY AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT TAX, TO CREATE THE CALDWELL COUNTY DISTRICT U, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CALDWELL COUNTY DISTRICT U TO LEVY A ROOM OCCUPANCY AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT TAX.*

Authorizes the city of Lenoir to levy a room occupancy tax of up to 3%. Provides that the tax must be levied, administered, collected, and repealed as provided in GS 160A-215 (uniform provisions for municipal room occupancy taxes). Requires the Lenoir Tourism Development Authority (Authority) to use at least two-thirds of the occupancy tax proceeds to promote travel and tourism in the city and the remainder for tourism related expenditures. Mandates that at least one-third of the Authority's members must be affiliated with businesses that collect the tax in the city and at least one-half must be currently active in the city's travel and tourism promotion. Makes conforming change to GS 160A-215(g).

Creates the Caldwell County District U taxing district, consisting of the part of Caldwell County located outside of the incorporated area of Blowing Rock. Authorizes the governing body of Caldwell County District U to levy a room occupancy tax of up to 3%. Provides that the tax must be levied, administered, collected, and repealed as provided in GS 153A-155 (uniform provisions for county room occupancy taxes) as if the district were a county. Requires the Caldwell County District U Tourism Development Authority (District U Authority) to use at least two-thirds of the occupancy tax proceeds to promote travel and tourism in the district and the remainder for tourism related expenditures. Mandates that at least one-third of the District U Authority's members must be affiliated with businesses that collect the tax in the district and at least one-half must be currently active in the district's travel and tourism promotion. Makes conforming change to GS 153A-155(g). District U provisions are effective January 1, 2008, or when the Caldwell County District U levies an occupancy tax, whichever occurs first. Repeals SL 1987-472 (authorizing Caldwell County to levy a room occupancy and tourism development tax).

**Intro. by Frye, Starnes.**

CALDWELL