AN ACT

To enact R.S. 47:338.223, relative to the town of Henderson; to authorize the town to levy a hotel occupancy tax; to provide for the use of tax revenues; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:338.223 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§338.223. Town of Henderson; hotel occupancy tax; authorization

A.(1) In addition to any other tax levied and collected, the governing authority of the town of Henderson may levy and collect a tax upon the paid occupancy of hotel rooms located within the town. The hotel occupancy tax shall not exceed four percent of the rent or fee charged for such occupancy.

(2) The word "hotel" as used in this Section shall mean and include any establishment, public or private, including an establishment at a structure used as a residence, engaged in the business of furnishing or providing rooms or overnight camping facilities intended or designed for dwelling, lodging, or sleeping purposes to transient guests where such establishment consists of two or more guest rooms or two or more overnight camping facilities, or if the establishment has both guest rooms and camping facilities, at least one of each, and does not encompass any hospital, convalescent or nursing home or sanitarium, or any hotel-like facility operated by or in connection with a hospital or medical clinic providing rooms exclusively for patients and their families.
(3) The person who exercises or is entitled to occupancy of the hotel room shall pay the hotel occupancy tax at the time the rent or fee for occupancy is paid. "Person" as used in this Paragraph shall have the same definition as that contained in R.S. 47:301(8).

B. The governing authority shall impose the hotel occupancy tax by ordinance or resolution. The governing authority may adopt such ordinance or resolution only after a proposition authorizing the levy of the tax has been approved by a majority of the electors of the town voting at an election held for that purpose in accordance with the Louisiana Election Code. The governing authority may provide in the ordinance or resolution necessary and appropriate rules and regulations for the imposition, collection, and enforcement of the hotel occupancy tax.

C. The governing authority may enter into a contract with any public entity authorized to collect sales or use taxes, under such terms and conditions as it may deem appropriate including payment of a reasonable collection fee, for the collection of the hotel occupancy tax authorized by this Section. The hotel occupancy tax shall be in addition to all taxes levied upon the occupancy of hotel rooms located within the town.

D. Except as provided in Subsection C of this Section, the governing authority shall use the proceeds of the tax to fund economic development, tourism promotion, and related infrastructure within the town.