

House Bill 1213

By: Representatives Epps of the 128th, Nix of the 69th, and Smith of the 129th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To authorize the governing authority of the City of LaGrange to levy an excise tax pursuant
2 to subsection (b) of Code Section 48-13-51 of the O.C.G.A.; to provide procedures,
3 conditions, and limitations; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
4 other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Pursuant to the authority of subsection (b) of Code Section 48-13-51 of the O.C.G.A., the
8 governing authority of the City of LaGrange is authorized to levy an excise tax at a rate not
9 to exceed 8 percent of the charge for the furnishing for value to the public of any room or
10 rooms, lodgings, or accommodations furnished by any person or legal entity licensed by, or
11 required to pay business or occupation taxes to, the municipality for operating a hotel, motel,
12 inn, lodge, tourist camp, tourist cabin, campground, or any other place in which rooms,
13 lodgings, or accommodations are regularly or periodically furnished for value.

14 **SECTION 2.**

15 The enactment of this Act is subsequent to the adoption of a resolution of the governing
16 authority of the City of LaGrange dated January 30, 2010, which specifies the subsequent tax
17 rate, identifies the projects or tourism product development purposes, and specifies the
18 allocation of proceeds.

19 **SECTION 3.**

20 In accordance with the terms of the duly executed resolution adopted by the mayor and
21 council of the City of LaGrange:

22 (1) In each fiscal year during which a tax is collected pursuant to paragraph (2) of
23 subsection (b) of Code Section 48-13-51 of the O.C.G.A., an amount equal to not less
24 than 50 percent of the total amount of taxes collected that exceed the amount of taxes that

25 would be collected at the rate of 5 percent shall be expended for promoting tourism,
26 conventions, and trade shows by the destination marketing organization designated by the
27 City of LaGrange or by such other entity already authorized to administer tourism funds
28 pursuant to existing contract as specified in paragraph (2) of subsection (e) of Code
29 Section 48-13-51 of the O.C.G.A.; and

30 (2) The remaining amount of taxes collected that exceed the amount of taxes that would
31 be collected at the rate of 5 percent which are not otherwise expended under
32 paragraph (1) of this section shall be expended for tourism product development.

33 **SECTION 4.**

34 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.