

House Bill 903

By: Representatives Burkhalter of the 50th and Stephens of the 164th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 48-13-51 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 county and municipal tax levies on hotels and motels and other public accommodations, so
3 as to revise provisions relating to a levy at the rate of 7 percent by certain counties and
4 municipalities; to provide that, where such tax was levied for the purpose of funding a
5 multipurpose domed stadium facility and is subject to a stated expiration date, the expiration
6 date may be extended under certain circumstances; to provide for extension for purposes of
7 funding a successor facility upon certification of certain conditions by a state authority; to
8 provide for expenditure through a contract with the state authority; to provide for a new
9 extended expiration date; to provide for the protection of bondholders; to provide for other
10 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

12 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

13 Code Section 48-13-51 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county and
14 municipal tax levies on hotels and motels and other public accommodations, is amended by
15 revising paragraph (5) of subsection (a) as follows:

16 "5)(A)(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, a county (within
17 the territorial limits of the special district located within the county) or municipality
18 is authorized to levy a tax under this Code section at a rate of 7 percent. A county or
19 municipality levying a tax pursuant to this paragraph shall expend an amount equal
20 to at least 51.4 percent of the total taxes collected prior to July 1, 1990, at the rate of
21 7 percent and an amount equal to at least 32.14 percent of the total taxes collected on
22 or after July 1, 1990, at the rate of 7 percent for the purpose of: ~~(A)~~ (I) promoting
23 tourism, conventions, and trade shows; ~~(B)~~ (II) supporting a facility owned or
24 operated by a state authority for convention and trade show purposes or any other
25 similar or related purposes; ~~(C)~~ (III) supporting a facility owned or operated by a local
26 authority or local government for convention and trade show purposes or any other

27 similar or related purposes, if a written agreement to provide such support was in
 28 effect on January 1, 1987, and if such facility is substantially completed and in
 29 operation prior to July 1, 1987; ~~(D)~~ (IV) supporting a facility owned or operated by
 30 a local government or local authority for convention and trade show purposes or any
 31 other similar or related purposes if construction of such facility is funded or was
 32 funded in whole or in part by a grant of state funds; or ~~(E)~~ (V) for some combination
 33 of such purposes. Amounts so expended shall be expended only through a contract
 34 or contracts with the state, a department of state government, a state authority, or a
 35 private sector nonprofit organization or through a contract or contracts with some
 36 combination of such entities, except that amounts expended for those purposes
 37 specified in ~~subparagraphs subdivisions (C) (III) and (D) (IV)~~ of this ~~paragraph~~
 38 division may be so expended in any otherwise lawful manner.

39 (ii) In addition to the amounts required to be expended ~~above~~ under division (i) of
 40 this subparagraph, a county or municipality levying a tax pursuant to this paragraph
 41 (5) shall further expend (in each fiscal year during which the tax is collected under
 42 this paragraph (5)) an amount equal to 14.3 percent of the total taxes collected prior
 43 to July 1, 1990, at the rate of 7 percent and an amount equal to 39.3 percent of the
 44 total taxes collected on or after July 1, 1990, at the rate of 7 percent toward funding
 45 a multipurpose domed stadium facility. Amounts so expended shall be expended only
 46 through a contract originally with the state, a department or agency of the state, or a
 47 state authority or through a contract or contracts with some combination of the above.
 48 Any tax levied pursuant to this paragraph shall terminate not later than December 31,
 49 2020, unless extended as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, provided
 50 that during any period during which there remains outstanding any obligation which
 51 is incurred prior to January 1, 1991, issued to fund a multipurpose domed stadium as
 52 contemplated by this paragraph (5), and secured in whole or in part by a pledge of a
 53 tax authorized under this Code section, or any such obligation which is incurred to
 54 refund such an obligation incurred before January 1, 1991, the powers of the counties
 55 and municipalities to impose and distribute the tax imposed by this paragraph (5) shall
 56 not be diminished or impaired by the state and no county or municipality levying the
 57 tax imposed by this paragraph shall cease to levy the tax in any manner that will
 58 impair the interest and rights of the holders of any such obligation. This proviso shall
 59 be for the benefit of the holder of any such obligation and, upon the issuance of any
 60 such obligation by an authority of the state, shall constitute a contract with the holder
 61 of such obligations.

62 (B) Notwithstanding the termination date stated in division (ii) of subparagraph (A) of
 63 this paragraph (5), a tax levied under this paragraph may be extended and continue to

64 be collected through December 31, 2045, if a state authority certifies: (i) that a portion
65 of the proceeds will be used to fund a successor facility to the multipurpose domed
66 stadium facility funded under division (ii) of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph; (ii)
67 that such successor facility will be located on property owned by the state authority;
68 and (iii) that the state authority has entered into a contract with a major league football
69 team for use of the successor facility by the major league football team through the end
70 of the new extended period of the tax collection. During the extended period of
71 collection provided for in this subparagraph, the county or municipality levying the tax
72 shall continue to comply with the expenditure requirements of division (i) of
73 subparagraph (A) of this paragraph. During the extended period of collection, the
74 county or municipality shall further expend (in each fiscal year during which the tax is
75 collected during the extended period of collection) an amount equal to 39.3 percent of
76 the total taxes collected at the rate of 7 percent toward funding the successor facility
77 certified by the state authority. Amounts so expended shall be expended only through
78 a contract with the certifying state authority. Any tax levied pursuant to this paragraph
79 shall terminate not later than December 31, 2045, provided that during any period
80 during which there remains outstanding any obligation which is incurred to fund the
81 successor facility certified by the state authority, and secured in whole or in part by a
82 pledge of a tax authorized under this Code section, or any such obligation which is
83 incurred to refund such an obligation, the powers of the counties and municipalities to
84 impose and distribute the tax imposed by this paragraph (5) shall not be diminished or
85 impaired by the state and no county or municipality levying the tax imposed by this
86 paragraph shall cease to levy the tax in any manner that will impair the interest and
87 rights of the holders of any such obligation. This proviso shall be for the benefit of the
88 holder of any such obligation and, upon the issuance of any such obligation by an
89 authority of the state, shall constitute a contract with the holder of such obligations."

90

SECTION 2.

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