

House Bill 599

By: Representatives Greene of the 151st, Dukes of the 154th, and Fullerton of the 153rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To authorize the governing authority of the City of Albany to levy an excise tax pursuant to
2 subsection (b) of Code Section 48-13-51 of the O.C.G.A.; to provide procedures, conditions,
3 and limitations; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
4 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 Albany is authorized to levy an excise tax at a rate not to
9 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 an ordinance of the governing
16 authority of the City of Albany dated December 18, 2012, 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 ordinance adopted by the mayor and
21 council of the City of Albany:

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 Albany 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) In each fiscal year during which a tax is collected pursuant to paragraph (2) of
31 subsection (b) of Code Section 48-13-51 of the O.C.G.A., the total amount of taxes that
32 would have been collected at a rate of 5 percent shall be expended pursuant to
33 paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of such Code section.

34 **SECTION 4.**

35 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.