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SENATE BILL NO. 891

Offered January 14, 2009

Prefiled December 31, 2008

A BILL to amend and reenact § 58.1-662 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the communications sales and use tax; distribution to localities; Town of Port Royal and Bath County.

Patron—McDougle

Referred to Committee on Finance

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 58.1-662 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 58.1-662. Disposition of communications sales and use tax revenue; Communications Sales and Use Tax Trust Fund; localities' share.

A. There is hereby created in the Department of the Treasury a special nonreverting fund which shall be known as the Communications Sales and Use Tax Trust Fund (the Fund). The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller and any funds remaining in the Fund at the end of a biennium shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund. Interest earned on the funds shall be credited to the Fund. After transferring moneys from the Fund to the Department of Taxation to pay for the direct costs of administering this chapter, the moneys in the Fund shall be allocated to the Commonwealth's counties, cities, and towns, and distributed in accordance with subsection C, after the payment (i) for the telephone relay service center is made to the Department of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing in accordance with the provisions of § 51.5-115 and (ii) of any franchise fee amount due to localities in accordance with any cable franchise in effect as of January 1, 2007.

B. The localities' share of the net revenue distributable under this section among the counties, cities, and towns shall be apportioned by the Tax Commissioner and distributed as soon as practicable after the close of each month during which the net revenue was received into the Fund. The distribution of the localities' share of such net revenue shall be computed with respect to the net revenue received in the state treasury during each month.

C. The net revenue distributable among the counties, cities, and towns shall be apportioned and distributed monthly during the remainder of Fiscal Year 2007 and during each subsequent fiscal year according to the percentage of telecommunications and television cable funds (local consumer utility tax on landlines and wireless, E-911, business license tax in excess of 0.5%, cable franchise fee, video programming excise tax, local consumer utility tax on cable television) they received respectively in Fiscal Year 2006 from local tax rates adopted on or before January 1, 2006. ~~However, beginning July 1, 2008, Bath County shall receive a monthly distribution equal to 0.027631 percent divided by 100.027631 percent of net revenues apportioned and distributed among the counties, cities, and towns and the monthly distribution to all other counties, cities, and towns shall be determined by dividing each locality's percentage share of distributions from the Communications Sales and Use Tax Trust Fund, as determined by the eighth enactment clause of Chapter 780 of the 2006 Acts of Assembly, by 100.027631 percent. However, beginning July 1, 2009, each of the following localities shall receive monthly distributions equal to the distributions that each would have received if the Auditor of Public Accounts had certified that each had collected the following amounts of telecommunications and television cable funds in Fiscal Year 2006 from local tax rates adopted on or before January 1, 2006, pursuant to the eighth enactment clause of Chapter 780 of the 2006 Acts of Assembly:~~

~~Bath County \$124,775~~

~~Town of Port Royal \$ 4,009~~

~~The Department of Taxation shall adjust the percentage share of the distributions from the Fund owed to each locality entitled to a distribution from the Fund accordingly. An amount equal to the total franchise fee paid to each locality with a cable franchise existing on the effective date of this section at the rate in existence on January 1, 2007, shall be subtracted from the amount owed to such locality prior to the distribution of moneys from the Fund.~~

D. For the purposes of the Comptroller making the required transfers, the Tax Commissioner shall make a written certification to the Comptroller no later than the twenty-fifth of each month certifying the communications sales and use tax revenues generated in the preceding month. Within three calendar days of receiving such certification, the Comptroller shall make the required transfers to the Communications Sales and Use Tax Trust Fund.

E. If errors are made in any distribution, or adjustments are otherwise necessary, the errors shall be corrected and adjustments made in the distribution for the next month or for subsequent months.

INTRODUCED

SB891