# **2010 SESSION**

10103839D

# **SENATE BILL NO. 452**

Offered January 13, 2010 Prefiled January 13, 2010

3 4 5 6 A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 58.1-602, 58.1-3819, 58.1-3822, 58.1-3823, 58.1-3824, 58.1-3825, 58.1-3825.2, 58.1-3826, 58.1-3842, and 58.1-3843 of the Code of Virginia, Chapter 265 of the Acts of Assembly of 1977, as amended, carried by reference in the Code of Virginia as § 58.1-3820, and 7 Chapter 436 of the Acts of Assembly of 1990, as amended, carried by reference in the Code of Virginia as § 58.1-3821, and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 58.1-604.7 and by adding in Article 6 of Chapter 38 of Title 58.1 a section numbered 58.1-3818.8, 8 9 10 relating to taxes on the rental of rooms, lodgings, accommodations, or similar spaces.

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Patron—Whipple

Referred to Committee on Finance

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Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

15 1. That §§ 58.1-602, 58.1-3819, 58.1-3822, 58.1-3823, 58.1-3824, 58.1-3825, 58.1-3825.2, 58.1-3826, 16 58.1-3842, and 58.1-3843 of the Code of Virginia, Chapter 265 of the Acts of Assembly of 1977, as 17 amended, carried by reference in the Code of Virginia as § 58.1-3820, and Chapter 436 of the Acts 18 of Assembly of 1990, as amended, carried by reference in the Code of Virginia as § 58.1-3821, are 19 20 amended and reenacted, and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 58.1-604.7 and by adding in Article 6 of Chapter 38 of Title 58.1 a section numbered 58.1-3818.8 21 22 as follows:

§ 58.1-602. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context clearly shows otherwise, the term or phrase:

25 "Accommodations provider" means a person (i) owning, operating, managing, or controlling the building or place where a room, lodging or accommodation being rented is located, or (ii) who has 26 27 acquired the right to use or possess such room, lodging, or accommodation.

"Advertising" means the planning, creating, or placing of advertising in newspapers, magazines, 28 29 billboards, broadcasting and other media, including, without limitation, the providing of concept, writing, 30 graphic design, mechanical art, photography and production supervision. Any person providing advertising as defined herein shall be deemed to be the user or consumer of all tangible personal 31 32 property purchased for use in such advertising.

33 "Amplification, transmission and distribution equipment" means, but is not limited to, production, 34 distribution, and other equipment used to provide Internet-access services, such as computer and 35 communications equipment and software used for storing, processing and retrieving end-user subscribers' 36 requests. 37

"Business" includes any activity engaged in by any person, or caused to be engaged in by him, with the object of gain, benefit or advantage, either directly or indirectly.

39 "Cost price" means the actual cost of an item or article of tangible personal property computed in the 40 same manner as the sales price as defined in this section without any deductions therefrom on account 41 of the cost of materials used, labor, or service costs, transportation charges, or any expenses whatsoever.

"Custom program" means a computer program which is specifically designed and developed only for 42 one customer. The combining of two or more prewritten programs does not constitute a custom 43 computer program. A prewritten program that is modified to any degree remains a prewritten program 44 45 and does not become custom.

"Distribution" means the transfer or delivery of tangible personal property for use, consumption, or 46 47 storage by the distributee, and the use, consumption, or storage of tangible personal property by a 48 person who has processed, manufactured, refined, or converted such property, but does not include the 49 transfer or delivery of tangible personal property for resale or any use, consumption, or storage 50 otherwise exempt under this chapter.

51 "Gross proceeds" means the charges made or voluntary contributions received for the lease or rental 52 of tangible personal property or for furnishing services, computed with the same deductions, where 53 applicable, as for sales price as defined in this section over the term of the lease, rental, service, or use, but not less frequently than monthly. 54

55 "Gross sales" means the sum total of all retail sales of tangible personal property or services as defined in this chapter, without any deduction, except as provided in this chapter. "Gross sales" shall not 56 include the federal retailers' excise tax or the federal diesel fuel excise tax imposed in § 4091 of the 57 58 Internal Revenue Code if the excise tax is billed to the purchaser separately from the selling price of the

article, or the Virginia retail sales or use tax, or any sales or use tax imposed by any county or cityunder § 58.1-605 or 58.1-606.

61 "Import" and "imported" are words applicable to tangible personal property imported into the
62 Commonwealth from other states as well as from foreign countries, and "export" and "exported" are
63 words applicable to tangible personal property exported from the Commonwealth to other states as well
64 as to foreign countries.

65 "In this Commonwealth" or "in the Commonwealth" means within the limits of the Commonwealth66 of Virginia and includes all territory within these limits owned by or ceded to the United States of67 America.

"Integrated process," when used in relation to semiconductor manufacturing, means a process that 68 69 begins with the research or development of semiconductor products, equipment, or processes, includes 70 the handling and storage of raw materials at a plant site, and continues to the point that the product is 71 packaged for final sale and either shipped or conveyed to a warehouse. Without limiting the foregoing, any semiconductor equipment, fuel, power, energy, supplies, or other tangible personal property shall be 72 deemed used as part of the integrated process if its use contributes, before, during, or after production, 73 74 to higher product quality, production yields, or process efficiencies. Except as otherwise provided by 75 law, such term shall not mean general maintenance or administration.

76 "Internet" means collectively, the myriad of computer and telecommunications facilities, which77 comprise the interconnected world-wide network of computer networks.

78 "Internet service" means a service that enables users to access proprietary and other content,79 information electronic mail, and the Internet as part of a package of services sold to end-user80 subscribers.

81 "Lease or rental" means the leasing or renting of tangible personal property and the possession or use82 thereof by the lessee or renter for a consideration, without transfer of the title to such property.

"Manufacturing, processing, refining, or conversion" includes the production line of the plant starting
with the handling and storage of raw materials at the plant site and continuing through the last step of
production where the product is finished or completed for sale and conveyed to a warehouse at the
production site, and also includes equipment and supplies used for production line testing and quality
control. The term "manufacturing" shall also include the necessary ancillary activities of newspaper and
magazine printing when such activities are performed by the publisher of any newspaper or magazine
for sale daily or regularly at average intervals not exceeding three months.

90 The determination whether any manufacturing, mining, processing, refining or conversion activity is 91 industrial in nature shall be made without regard to plant size, existence or size of finished product 92 inventory, degree of mechanization, amount of capital investment, number of employees or other factors 93 relating principally to the size of the business. Further, "industrial in nature" shall include, but not be 94 limited to, those businesses classified in codes 10 through 14 and 20 through 39 published in the 95 Standard Industrial Classification Manual for 1972 and any supplements issued thereafter.

"Modular building" means, but shall not be limited to, single and multifamily houses, apartment 96 97 units, commercial buildings, and permanent additions thereof, comprised of one or more sections that are 98 intended to become real property, primarily constructed at a location other than the permanent site, built to comply with the Virginia Industrialized Building Safety Law (§ 36-70 et seq.) as regulated by the 99 Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, and shipped with most permanent 100 101 components in place to the site of final assembly. For purposes of this chapter, a modular building shall not include a mobile office as defined in § 58.1-2401 or any manufactured building subject to and 102 certified under the provisions of the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards 103 Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. § 5401 et seq.). 104

105 "Modular building manufacturer" means a person or corporation who owns or operates a 106 manufacturing facility and is engaged in the fabrication, construction and assembling of building 107 supplies and materials into modular buildings, as defined in this section, at a location other than at the 108 site where the modular building will be assembled on the permanent foundation and may or may not be 109 engaged in the process of affixing the modules to the foundation at the permanent site.

110 "Modular building retailer" means any person who purchases or acquires a modular building from a 111 modular building manufacturer, or from another person, for subsequent sale to a customer residing 112 within or outside of the Commonwealth, with or without installation of the modular building to the 113 foundation at the permanent site.

114 "Motor vehicle" means a "motor vehicle" as defined in § 58.1-2401, taxable under the provisions of 115 the Virginia Motor Vehicles Sales and Use Tax Act (§ 58.1-2400 et seq.) and upon the sale of which all 116 applicable motor vehicle sales and use taxes have been paid.

117 "Occasional sale" means a sale of tangible personal property not held or used by a seller in the course of an activity for which he is required to hold a certificate of registration, including the sale or exchange of all or substantially all the assets of any business and the reorganization or liquidation of any business, provided such sale or exchange is not one of a series of sales and exchanges sufficient in

number, scope and character to constitute an activity requiring the holding of a certificate of registration.
 "Open video system" means an open video system authorized pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 573 and, for
 purposes of this chapter only, shall also include Internet service regardless of whether the provider of

such service is also a telephone common carrier.
"Person" includes any individual, firm, copartnership, cooperative, nonprofit membership corporation, joint venture, association, corporation, estate, trust, business trust, trustee in bankruptcy, receiver, auctioneer, syndicate, assignee, club, society, or other group or combination acting as a unit, body politic or political subdivision, whether public or private, or quasi-public, and the plural of such term shall mean the same as the singular.

"Prewritten program" means a computer program that is prepared, held or existing for general or
repeated sale or lease, including a computer program developed for in-house use and subsequently sold
or leased to unrelated third parties.

"Railroad rolling stock" means locomotives, of whatever motive power, autocars, railroad cars of
every kind and description, and all other equipment determined by the Tax Commissioner to constitute
railroad rolling stock.

"Retail sale" or a "sale at retail" means a sale to any person for any purpose other than for resale in
the form of tangible personal property or services taxable under this chapter, and shall include any such
transaction as the Tax Commissioner upon investigation finds to be in lieu of a sale. All sales for resale
must be made in strict compliance with regulations applicable to this chapter. Any dealer making a sale
for resale which is not in strict compliance with such regulations shall be personally liable for payment
of the tax.

142 The terms "retail sale" and a "sale at retail" shall specifically include the following: (i) the sale or 143 charges for any room or rooms, lodgings, or accommodations furnished to transients for less than 90 144 continuous days by in cases in which the room, lodging, or accommodation is located in any hotel, 145 motel, inn, tourist camp, tourist cabin, camping grounds, club, or any other place in which rooms, 146 lodging, space, or accommodations are regularly furnished to transients for a consideration; (ii) sales of 147 tangible personal property to persons for resale when because of the operation of the business, or its 148 very nature, or the lack of a place of business in which to display a certificate of registration, or the 149 lack of a place of business in which to keep records, or the lack of adequate records, or because such 150 persons are minors or transients, or because such persons are engaged in essentially service businesses, 151 or for any other reason there is likelihood that the Commonwealth will lose tax funds due to the 152 difficulty of policing such business operations; and (iii) the separately stated charge made for automotive 153 refinish repair materials that are permanently applied to or affixed to a motor vehicle during its repair. 154 The Tax Commissioner is authorized to promulgate regulations requiring vendors of or sellers to such 155 persons to collect the tax imposed by this chapter on the cost price of such tangible personal property to 156 such persons and may refuse to issue certificates of registration to such persons.

The term "transient" shall not include a purchaser of camping memberships, time-shares, condominiums, or other similar contracts or interests that permit the use of, or constitute an interest in, real estate, however created or sold and whether registered with the Commonwealth or not. Further, a purchaser of a right or license which entitles the purchaser to use the amenities and facilities of a specific real estate project on an ongoing basis throughout its term shall not be deemed a transient; provided, however, that the term or time period involved is for seven years or more.

163 The terms "retail sale" and "sale at retail" shall not include a transfer of title to tangible personal 164 property after its use as tools, tooling, machinery or equipment, including dies, molds, and patterns, if (i) 165 at the time of purchase, the purchaser is obligated, under the terms of a written contract, to make the 166 transfer and (ii) the transfer is made for the same or a greater consideration to the person for whom the 167 purchaser manufactures goods.

168 "Retailer" means every person engaged in the business of making sales at retail, or for distribution,169 use, consumption, or storage to be used or consumed in the Commonwealth.

170 "Sale" means any transfer of title or possession, or both, exchange, barter, lease or rental, conditional 171 or otherwise, in any manner or by any means whatsoever, of tangible personal property and any 172 rendition of a taxable service for a consideration, and includes the fabrication of tangible personal 173 property for consumers who furnish, either directly or indirectly, the materials used in fabrication, and 174 the furnishing, preparing, or serving for a consideration of any tangible personal property consumed on 175 the premises of the person furnishing, preparing, or serving such tangible personal property. A 176 transaction whereby the possession of property is transferred but the seller retains title as security for the 177 payment of the price shall be deemed a sale.

178 "Sales price" means the total amount for which tangible personal property or services are sold,
179 including any services that are a part of the sale, valued in money, whether paid in money or otherwise,
180 and includes any amount for which credit is given to the purchaser, consumer, or lessee by the dealer,
181 without any deduction therefrom on account of the cost of the property sold, the cost of materials used,

182 labor or service costs, losses or any other expenses whatsoever. "Sales price" shall not include (i) any 183 cash discount allowed and taken; (ii) finance charges, carrying charges, service charges or interest from 184 credit extended on sales of tangible personal property under conditional sale contracts or other 185 conditional contracts providing for deferred payments of the purchase price; (iii) separately stated local 186 property taxes collected; (iv) that portion of the amount paid by the purchaser as a discretionary gratuity 187 added to the price of a meal; or (v) that portion of the amount paid by the purchaser as a mandatory 188 gratuity or service charge added by a restaurant to the price of a meal, but only to the extent that such 189 mandatory gratuity or service charge does not exceed 20% of the price of the meal. Where used articles 190 are taken in trade, or in a series of trades as a credit or part payment on the sale of new or used 191 articles, the tax levied by this chapter shall be paid on the net difference between the sales price of the 192 new or used articles and the credit for the used articles.

"Semiconductor cleanrooms" means the integrated systems, fixtures, piping, partitions, flooring, 193 194 lighting, equipment, and all other property used to reduce contamination or to control airflow, 195 temperature, humidity, vibration, or other environmental conditions required for the integrated process of 196 semiconductor manufacturing.

197 "Semiconductor equipment" means (i) machinery or tools or repair parts or replacements thereof; (ii) 198 the related accessories, components, pedestals, bases, or foundations used in connection with the 199 operation of the equipment, without regard to the proximity to the equipment, the method of attachment, 200 or whether the equipment or accessories are affixed to the realty; (iii) semiconductor wafers and other 201 property or supplies used to install, test, calibrate or recalibrate, characterize, condition, measure, or 202 maintain the equipment and settings thereof; and (iv) equipment and supplies used for quality control 203 testing of product, materials, equipment, or processes; or the measurement of equipment performance or 204 production parameters regardless of where or when the quality control, testing, or measuring activity 205 takes place, how the activity affects the operation of equipment, or whether the equipment and supplies 206 come into contact with the product.

207 "Storage" means any keeping or retention of tangible personal property for use, consumption or 208 distribution in the Commonwealth, or for any purpose other than sale at retail in the regular course of 209 business.

210 "Tangible personal property" means personal property which may be seen, weighed, measured, felt, 211 or touched, or is in any other manner perceptible to the senses. The term "tangible personal property" 212 shall not include stocks, bonds, notes, insurance or other obligations or securities. The term "tangible 213 personal property" shall include (i) telephone calling cards upon their initial sale, which shall be exempt 214 from all other state and local utility taxes, and (ii) manufactured signs.

215 "Use" means the exercise of any right or power over tangible personal property incident to the 216 ownership thereof, except that it does not include the sale at retail of that property in the regular course 217 of business. The term does not include the exercise of any right or power, including use, distribution, or 218 storage, over any tangible personal property sold to a nonresident donor for delivery outside of the Commonwealth to a nonresident recipient pursuant to an order placed by the donor from outside the 219 220 Commonwealth via mail or telephone. The term does not include any sale determined to be a gift 221 transaction, subject to tax under § 58.1-604.6.

222 "Use tax" refers to the tax imposed upon the use, consumption, distribution, and storage as herein 223 defined.

224 "Used directly," when used in relation to manufacturing, processing, refining, or conversion, refers to 225 those activities which are an integral part of the production of a product, including all steps of an 226 integrated manufacturing or mining process, but not including ancillary activities such as general 227 maintenance or administration. When used in relation to mining, it shall refer to the activities specified 228 above, and in addition, any reclamation activity of the land previously mined by the mining company 229 required by state or federal law.

230 "Video programmer" means a person or entity that provides video programming to end-user subscribers. 231

"Video programming" means video and/or information programming provided by or generally 232 233 considered comparable to programming provided by a cable operator including, but not limited to, 234 Internet service. 235

§ 58.1-604.7. Tax on the rental of rooms, lodging, or accommodations.

236 In the case of the retail sale of any room, lodging, or accommodation furnished to a transient that 237 is made by the accommodations provider, the accommodations provider shall pay the retail sales and 238 use taxes applicable in accordance with this chapter computed on the total charges for the room, 239 lodging, or accommodation. The accommodations provider shall remit the same to the Department of Taxation. Such person shall separately state the amount of the tax on the bill, invoice, or similar 240 documentation and shall add the tax to the total charges for the room, lodging, or 241 242 accommodation. Thereafter, such tax shall be a debt from the person renting the room, lodging, or accommodation to the accommodations provider. Such debt shall be recoverable at law in the same 243

244 manner as other debts.

245 Nothing herein shall be construed or interpreted as prohibiting any person from contracting with an 246 agent or other party to facilitate the rental of any room, lodging, or accommodation to transients. If as 247 part of a retail sale the agent or other party collects the taxes applicable to the room, lodging, or 248 accommodation, then such agent or other party shall (i) separately state on the bill, invoice, or similar 249 documentation the amount of the retail sales and use taxes due (in accordance with this chapter) 250 computed based upon the total charges charged by the agent or other party, (ii) be deemed to be 251 holding in trust all such taxes collected on the rental of the room, lodging, or accommodation, and (iii) 252 be liable for such retail sales and use taxes described in clause (i).

253 Nothing herein shall relieve the accommodations provider from liability for tax under this chapter on 254 the total amount received by the accommodations provider from an agent or other party under an 255 agreement allowing the agent or other party to facilitate the rental of any room, lodging, or 256 accommodation.

257 It is the intent of the General Assembly that retail sales and use taxes applicable in accordance with 258 this chapter on the rental of any room, lodging, or accommodation to a transient be imposed once. 259

§ 58.1-3818.8. Definitions.

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As used in this article, unless the context requires a different meaning:

261 "Accommodations provider" means a person (i) owning, operating, managing, or controlling the 262 building or place where the room, space, or unit being rented is located, or (ii) who has acquired the 263 right to use or possess such room, space, or unit.

264 "Retail sale" means a sale to any person for any purpose other than for resale.

"Use or possession" means the use or possession or the right to the use or possession. 265

266 § 58.1-3819. Transient occupancy tax.

267 A. Any county, by duly adopted ordinance, may levy a transient occupancy tax on hotels, motels, 268 boarding houses, travel campgrounds, and other facilities offering guest rooms rented out for continuous 269 occupancy for fewer than 30 consecutive days for the use or possession of a room or space in a hotel, 270 motel, boarding house, travel campground, or other facility offering guest rooms rented out for 271 continuous occupancy for fewer than 30 consecutive days. The tax shall be imposed on total price paid 272 by the ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room or space in a retail sale. Such tax shall 273 be in such amount and on such terms as the governing body may, by ordinance, prescribe. Such tax 274 shall not exceed two percent of the amount of charge for the occupancy of any room or space occupied 275 total price paid by the ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room or space in a retail 276 sale; however, York County, Albemarle County, Nelson County, Mecklenburg County, Gloucester 277 County, Spotsylvania County, Stafford County, Loudoun County, Bedford County, Cumberland County, 278 Floyd County, King George County, Wise County, Botetourt County, Prince Edward County, Rockbridge County, Caroline County, Dinwiddie County, Page County, Wythe County, James City 279 280 County, Franklin County, Tazewell County, Augusta County, Prince William County, Craig County, 281 Prince George County, Patrick County, Pulaski County, Halifax County, Montgomery County, Carroll 282 County, Northampton County, Amherst County, Giles County, Smyth County, and Greene County may levy a transient occupancy tax not to exceed five percent, and any excess over two percent shall be 283 284 designated and spent solely for tourism and travel, marketing of tourism or initiatives that, as determined 285 after consultation with the local tourism industry organizations, including representatives of lodging 286 properties located in the county, attract travelers to the locality, increase occupancy at lodging properties, 287 and generate tourism revenues in the locality. If any locality has enacted an additional transient 288 occupancy tax pursuant to subsection C of  $\S$  58.1-3823, then the governing body of the locality shall be 289 deemed to have complied with the requirement that it consult with local tourism industry organizations, 290 including lodging properties. If there are no local tourism industry organizations in the locality, the 291 governing body shall hold a public hearing prior to making any determination relating to how to attract 292 travelers to the locality and generate tourism revenues in the locality.

293 B. The tax imposed hereunder shall not apply to rooms or spaces rented and continuously occupied 294 by the same individual or same group of individuals for 30 or more at least 30 consecutive days in hotels, motels, boarding houses, travel campgrounds, and other facilities offering guest rooms. In 295 296 addition, that portion of any tax imposed hereunder in excess of two percent shall not apply to travel 297 campgrounds in Stafford County.

298 C. Nothing herein contained shall affect any authority heretofore granted to any county, city or town 299 to levy such a transient occupancy tax. The county tax limitations imposed pursuant to § 58.1-3711 shall 300 apply to any tax levied under this section, mutatis mutandis.

D. Any county, city or town which requires local hotel and motel businesses, or any class thereof, to 301 302 collect, account for and remit to such locality a local tax imposed on the consumer the transient 303 occupancy tax, may allow such businesses a commission for such service in the form of a deduction 304 from the tax remitted. Such commission shall be provided for by ordinance, which shall set the rate

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305 thereof, no less than three percent, not to exceed five percent of the amount of tax due and accounted 306 for. No commission shall be allowed if the amount due was delinquent.

307 E. All transient occupancy tax collections shall be deemed to be held in trust for the county, city or 308 town imposing the tax.

309 § 58.1-3820. Arlington County transient occupancy tax.

310 Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 443, as amended, of the Acts of Assembly of 1970 carried 311 by reference in the Code of Virginia as § 58.1-3819, beginning on and after July 1, 1977, Arlington 312 County is authorized to levy the transient occupancy tax permitted in § 58.1-3819 in an amount not to 313 exceed five percent of the amount of the charge for the occupancy of any room or space occupied total price paid by the ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room or space in a retail sale, 314 provided that the county's local license tax as permitted in § 58.1-3703, as amended, on hotels, motels, 315 316 boarding houses, travel campgrounds, and other facilities offering guest rooms rented out for continuous 317 occupancy for fewer than thirty consecutive days, on and after January 1, 1978, shall not exceed one percent of the gross receipts of such hotels, motels, boarding houses, travel campgrounds, and other 318 319 facilities offering guest rooms rented out for continuous occupancy for fewer than thirty consecutive 320 days. For purposes of this section, a corporation or partnership shall be deemed an individual or group 321 unless provided otherwise by local ordinance. For purposes of exercising the authority granted by this section, those ordinances enacted by Arlington County on October 26, 1991, and December 7, 1991, are 322 323 validated as to their application, prospectively only, from the date of their enactment. The remaining 324 provisions of § 58.1-3819 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the provisions of this section. 325

§ 58.1-3821. Transient occupancy tax on certain rentals.

326 The County of Franklin and the County of Nelson may, by ordinance, levy a transient occupancy tax 327 on condominiums, apartments, townhouses, or like buildings when rooms or units in such buildings are 328 rented for occupancy for fewer than thirty days at a time for the use or possession of a room or unit in 329 a condominium, apartment, townhouse, or like building in those cases in which the person has the right 330 to use or possess the room or unit for fewer than 30 days at a time. The tax imposed hereunder shall 331 not apply to rooms or units rented for continuous occupancy by the same individual or group for thirty 332 or more at least 30 consecutive days in condominiums, apartments, townhouses, or like buildings.

333 Such tax shall be in an amount and on such terms as the governing body, by ordinance, may 334 prescribe; however, in the County of Franklin such tax shall not exceed two percent of the amount of 335 charge for the occupancy of any room or space occupied total price paid by the ultimate consumer for 336 the use or possession of the room or unit in a retail sale and in the County of Nelson such tax shall not 337 exceed 5% percent of the amount of charge for the occupancy of any room or space occupied total 338 price paid by the ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room or unit in a retail sale. Any 339 revenue collected in Nelson County from that portion of the tax which exceeds 2% percent, shall be 340 designated and spent for promoting tourism, travel, or business that generates tourism or travel in the 341 county. Any county which imposes the tax authorized in this section may allow the businesses 342 collecting, accounting for, and remitting such consumer transient occupancy tax a commission for such 343 service in the form of a deduction from the tax remitted. The commission amount shall be established 344 by ordinance; however, the maximum commission payable shall not exceed five percent of the amount 345 of tax due and accounted for nor be less than a minimum of three percent of the amount of tax due. No 346 commission shall be allowed if the amount due was delinquent. 347

§ 58.1-3822. Additional transient occupancy tax.

348 In addition to such transient occupancy taxes as are authorized by §§ 58.1-3819 and 58.1-3820, 349 beginning January 1, 1991, and ending January 1, 2012, Arlington County may impose an additional transient occupancy tax for the use or possession of any room or space in those buildings or places described in subsection A of § 58.1-3819 in an amount not to exceed one-fourth of one percent of the 350 351 352 amount of the charge for the occupancy of any room or space occupied total price paid by the ultimate 353 consumer for the use or possession of the room or space in a retail sale. The revenues collected from 354 the additional tax shall be designated and spent for the purpose of promoting tourism and business travel in the county. Such designated funds shall be in addition to the county's previous budgeted amount for 355 356 the promotion of tourism and business travel.

§ 58.1-3823. Additional transient occupancy tax for certain counties.

358 A. In addition to such transient occupancy taxes as are authorized by §§ 58.1-3819 through 359 58.1-3822, Hanover County, Chesterfield County and Henrico County may impose:

360 1. An additional transient occupancy tax for the use or possession of any room or space in those buildings or places described in subsection A of § 58.1-3819 in an amount not to exceed four percent of 361 the amount of the charge for the occupancy of any room or space occupied total price paid by the 362 ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room or space in a retail sale. The tax imposed 363 364 hereunder shall not apply to rooms or spaces rented and continuously occupied by the same individual or same group of individuals for 30 or more at least 30 consecutive days. The revenues collected from 365 366 the additional tax shall be designated and spent for promoting tourism, travel or business that generates

**367** tourism or travel in the Richmond metropolitan area; and

2. An additional transient occupancy tax for the use or possession of any room or space in those 368 369 buildings or places described in subsection A of § 58.1-3819 in an amount not to exceed two percent of 370 the amount of the charge for the occupancy of any room or space occupied total price paid by the 371 ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room or space in a retail sale. The tax imposed 372 hereunder shall not apply to rooms or spaces rented and continuously occupied by the same individual 373 or same group of individuals for 30 or more at least 30 consecutive days. The revenues collected from 374 the additional tax shall be designated and spent for expanding the Richmond Centre, a convention and 375 exhibition facility in the City of Richmond.

376 3. An additional transient occupancy tax for the use or possession of any room or space in those 377 buildings or places described in subsection A of § 58.1-3819 in an amount not to exceed one percent of 378 the amount of the charge for the occupancy of any room or space occupied total price paid by the 379 ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room or space in a retail sale. The tax imposed 380 hereunder shall not apply to rooms or spaces rented and continuously occupied by the same individual 381 or group of individuals for 30 or more at least 30 consecutive days. The revenues collected from the 382 additional tax shall be designated and spent for the development and improvement of the Virginia 383 Performing Arts Foundation's facilities in Richmond, for promoting the use of the Richmond Centre and 384 for promoting tourism, travel or business that generates tourism and travel in the Richmond metropolitan 385 area.

386 B. In addition to such transient occupancy taxes as are authorized by §§ 58.1-3819 through 387 58.1-3822, any county with the county manager plan of government may impose an additional transient 388 occupancy tax for the use or possession of any room or space in those buildings or places described in 389 subsection A of § 58.1-3819 in an amount not to exceed two percent of the amount of the charge for the 390 occupancy of any room or space occupied total price paid by the ultimate consumer for the use or 391 possession of the room or space in a retail sale, provided the county's governing body approves the construction of a county conference center. The tax imposed hereunder shall not apply to rooms or 392 393 spaces rented and continuously occupied by the same individual or same group of individuals for 30 or 394 more at least 30 consecutive days. The revenues collected from the additional tax shall be designated 395 and spent for the design, construction, debt payment, and operation of such conference center.

396 C. 1. In addition to such transient occupancy taxes as are authorized by §§ 58.1-3819 through 397 58.1-3822, the Counties of James City and York may impose an additional transient occupancy tax for 398 the use or possession of any overnight guest room in an amount not to exceed \$2 per room per night 399 for the occupancy of any overnight guest room. The revenues collected from the additional tax shall be 400 designated and expended solely for advertising the Historic Triangle area, which includes all of the City 401 of Williamsburg and the Counties of James City and York, as an overnight tourism destination by the 402 members of the Williamsburg Area Destination Marketing Committee of the Greater Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism Alliance. The tax imposed by this subsection shall not apply to travel 403 **404** campground sites or to rooms or spaces rented and continuously occupied by the same individual or 405 same group of individuals for <del>30 or more</del> at least 30 consecutive days.

406 2. The Williamsburg Area Destination Marketing Committee shall consist of the members as
407 provided in this subdivision. The governing bodies of the City of Williamsburg, the County of James
408 City, and the County of York shall each designate one of their members to serve as members of the
409 Williamsburg Area Destination Marketing Committee. These three members of the Committee shall have
410 two votes apiece.

411 Further, one member of the Committee shall be selected by the Board of Directors of the 412 Williamsburg Hotel and Motel Association; one member of the Committee shall be from The Colonial 413 Williamsburg Foundation and shall be selected by the Foundation; one member of the Committee shall be an employee of Busch Gardens Europe/Water Country USA and shall be selected by Busch Gardens 414 415 Europe/Water Country USA; one member of the Committee shall be from the Jamestown-Yorktown 416 Foundation and shall be selected by the Foundation; one member of the Committee shall be selected by 417 the Executive Committee of the Greater Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism Alliance; and one member 418 of the Committee shall be the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Tourism Authority 419 who shall serve ex officio. Each of these six members of the Committee shall have one vote apiece. The 420 President of the Greater Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism Alliance shall serve ex officio with 421 nonvoting privileges unless chosen by the Executive Committee of the Greater Williamsburg Chamber 422 and Tourism Alliance to serve as its voting representative. The Executive Director of the Williamsburg 423 Hotel and Motel Association shall serve ex officio with nonvoting privileges unless chosen by the Board of Directors of the Williamsburg Hotel and Motel Association to serve as its voting representative. 424

425 3. The Williamsburg Area Destination Marketing Committee shall maintain all authorities granted by
426 this section. The Greater Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism Alliance shall serve as the fiscal agent for
427 the Williamsburg Area Destination Marketing Committee with specific responsibilities to be defined in a

428 contract between such two entities. The contract shall include provisions to reimburse the Greater 429 Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism Alliance for annual audits and any other agreed-upon expenditures.

430 The Williamsburg Area Destination Marketing Committee shall also contract with the Greater 431 Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism Alliance to provide administrative support services as the entities 432 shall mutually agree.

433 4. The provisions in subdivision 2 relating to the composition and voting powers of the Williamsburg 434 Area Destination Marketing Committee shall be a condition of the authority to impose the tax provided 435 herein.

436 For purposes of this subsection, "advertising the Historic Triangle area" as an overnight tourism destination means advertising that is intended to attract visitors from a sufficient distance so as to 437 438 require an overnight stay of at least one night.

439 D. The county tax limitations imposed pursuant to § 58.1-3711 shall apply to any tax levied under 440 this section, mutatis mutandis. 441

§ 58.1-3824. Additional transient occupancy tax in Fairfax County.

In addition to such transient occupancy taxes as are authorized by this chapter, beginning July 1, 442 443 2004, Fairfax County may impose an additional transient occupancy tax for the use or possession of any 444 room or space in those buildings or places described in subsection A of § 58.1-3819 in an amount not 445 to exceed two percent of the amount of charge for the occupancy of any room or space occupied total 446 price paid by the ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room or space in a retail sale; 447 provided that the board of supervisors of the County appropriates the revenues collected from such tax 448 as follows:

449 1. No more than 75 percent of such revenues shall be designated for and appropriated to Fairfax 450 County to be spent for tourism promotion in the County after consultation with local tourism industry 451 organizations and in support of the local tourism industry; and

452 2. The remaining portion of such revenues shall be designated for and appropriated to a nonprofit 453 convention and visitor's bureau located in Fairfax County.

454 The tax imposed hereunder shall not apply to rooms or spaces rented and continuously occupied by 455 the same individual or same group of individuals for 30 or more at least 30 consecutive days.

456 For purposes of this section, "tourism promotion" means direct funding designated and spent solely 457 for tourism, marketing of tourism or initiatives that, as determined in consultation with the local tourism 458 industry organizations, attract travelers to the locality and generate tourism revenues in the locality.

459 § 58.1-3825. Additional transient occupancy tax in Rockbridge County and the Cities of Lexington 460 and Buena Vista.

461 In addition to such transient occupancy taxes as are authorized by this chapter, Rockbridge County and the Cities of Lexington and Buena Vista may impose an additional transient occupancy tax for the 462 use or possession of any room or space in those buildings or places described in subsection A of 463 464 § 58.1-3819 in an amount not to exceed two percent of the amount of charge for the occupancy of any 465 room or space occupied total price paid by the ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room or space in a retail sale. The authority to impose such tax is hereby individually granted to the local 466 governing bodies of such county and cities. However, if such tax is adopted, the local governing body 467 468 of such county or cities adopting the tax shall appropriate the revenues collected therefrom to the 469 Virginia Horse Center Foundation to be used by the Foundation for the sole purpose of making principal 470 and interest payments on a promissory note or notes signed or executed by the Virginia Horse Center 471 Foundation or the Virginia Equine Center Foundation prior to January 1, 2004, with the Rockbridge 472 Industrial Development Authority as the obligee or payee, as part of an agreement for the Authority to 473 issue bonds on behalf of or for improvements at the Virginia Horse Center Foundation, Virginia Equine 474 Center Foundation, or Virginia Equine Center.

475 For purposes of this section, such note or notes signed or executed prior to January 1, 2004, shall 476 include any notes or other indebtedness incurred to refinance such note or notes, regardless of the date 477 of refinancing, provided that such refinancing shall not include any debt or the payment of any debt for 478 any activity relating to the Virginia Horse Center Foundation, Virginia Equine Center Foundation, or 479 Virginia Equine Center that occurs on or after January 1, 2004.

480 The tax imposed hereunder shall not apply to rooms or spaces rented and continuously occupied by 481 the same individual or same group of individuals for <del>30 or more</del> at least 30 consecutive days. Such tax 482 may no longer be imposed in such county or such cities after final payment of the note or notes 483 described herein. 484

§ 58.1-3825.2. Additional transient occupancy tax in Bath County.

485 A. In addition to such transient occupancy tax as is authorized by § 58.1-3819, Bath County may impose an additional transient occupancy tax for the use or possession of any room or space in those 486 buildings or places described in subsection A of § 58.1-3819 in an amount not to exceed two percent of 487 488 the amount of the charge for the occupancy of any room or space occupied total price paid by the ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room or space in a retail sale. 489

490 B. The revenues collected from the additional tax shall be designated and spent as follows:

491 1. One-half of such revenue shall be designated and spent solely for tourism and travel, marketing of 492 tourism, or initiatives that, as determined after consultation with the local tourism industry organizations, 493 attract travelers to the locality and generate tourism revenues in the locality. If there are no local tourism 494 industry organizations in the locality, the governing body shall hold a public hearing prior to making 495 any determination relating to how to attract travelers to the locality and generate tourism revenues in the 496 locality.

497 2. One-half of such revenue shall be designated and spent solely for the design, operation, 498 construction, improvement, acquisition, and debt service for such expenses on debt incurred after June 499 30, 2009, of tourism facilities, historic sites, beautification projects, promotion of the arts, regional 500 tourism marketing efforts, capital costs related to travel and transportation including air service, public 501 parks and recreation, and information centers that attract travelers to the locality and generate tourism 502 revenues in the locality.

503 C. The tax imposed hereunder shall not apply to rooms or spaces rented and continuously occupied 504 by the same individual or same group of individuals for 30 or more at least 30 consecutive -days in 505 hotels, motels, boarding houses, travel campgrounds, and other facilities offering guest rooms.

506 D. If Bath County requires local hotel and motel businesses, or any class thereof, to collect, account 507 for, and remit the tax imposed pursuant to this section, the County may allow such businesses a 508 commission for such service in the form of a deduction from the tax remitted. Such commission shall be 509 provided for by ordinance, which shall set the rate thereof, no less than three percent and not to exceed 510 five percent of the amount of tax due and accounted for. No commission shall be allowed if the amount 511 due is delinquent.

512 513 E. All tax collections pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be held in trust for Bath County.

§ 58.1-3826. Scope of transient occupancy tax.

514 A. The transient occupancy tax imposed pursuant to the authority of this article shall be imposed 515 only for the occupancy use or possession of any room or space that is suitable or intended for occupancy by transients for dwelling, lodging, or sleeping purposes. 516

517 B. In the case of the retail sale of any room, space, or unit furnished to a transient that is made by 518 the accommodations provider, the accommodations provider shall pay the tax imposed pursuant to this 519 article, computed based upon the total price paid for the use or possession of such room, space, or unit, and shall remit the same to the locality. Such person shall separately state the amount of the tax on the 520 521 bill, invoice, or similar documentation and shall add the tax to the total price paid for the use or 522 possession of the room, space, or unit. Thereafter, such tax shall be a debt from the person renting the 523 room, space, or unit to the accommodations provider. Such debt shall be recoverable at law in the same 524 manner as other debts.

525 Nothing herein shall be construed or interpreted as prohibiting any person from contracting with an 526 agent or other party to facilitate the rental of any room, space, or unit. If as part of a retail sale the 527 agent or other party collects the taxes applicable to the room, space, or unit, then such agent or other 528 party shall (i) separately state the amount of tax imposed pursuant to this article on the bill, invoice, or 529 similar documentation, (ii) collect the tax imposed pursuant to this article based upon the total price 530 paid by the ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room, space, or unit, (iii) be deemed to 531 be holding in trust for the locality all taxes collected pursuant to this article, and (iv) be liable for the 532 tax imposed pursuant to this article by the applicable locality.

533 Nothing herein shall relieve the accommodations provider from liability for tax under this article on 534 the total amount received by the accommodations provider from an agent or other party under an agreement allowing the agent or other party to facilitate the rental of any room, space, or unit. 535

536 It is the intent of the General Assembly that taxes imposed pursuant to this article on the rental of 537 any room, space, or unit be imposed once. 538

§ 58.1-3842. Combined transient occupancy and food and beverage tax.

539 A. Rappahannock County, by duly adopted ordinance, is hereby authorized to levy a tax on 540 occupancy for the use or possession of any room or space in a bed and breakfast establishment on 541 which the county is authorized to levy a transient occupancy tax under § 58.1-3819 and on food and 542 beverages sold for human consumption within such establishment on which the county is authorized to 543 levy a food and beverage tax under § 58.1-3833, when the charges for the occupancy use or possession 544 of the room or space and for the sale of food and beverages are assessed in the aggregate and not 545 separately stated. Such tax shall not exceed four percent of the total amount charged for the occupancy 546 of the room or space occupied price paid by the ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the 547 room or space and for the food and beverages in a retail sale. Such tax shall be in such amount and on 548 such terms as the governing body may, by ordinance, prescribe. The tax shall be in addition to the sales tax currently imposed by the county pursuant to the authority of Chapter 6 (§ 58.1-600 et seq.) of this 549 title. Collection of such tax shall be in a manner prescribed by the governing body. All taxes collected 550

551 under the authority of this article shall be deemed to be held in trust for the county imposing the tax.

552 B. If a bed and breakfast establishment separately states charges for the occupancy use or possession 553 of the room or space and for the sale of food and beverages, a transient occupancy tax levied under 554 § 58.1-3819 and a food and beverage tax levied under § 58.1-3833 shall apply to such separately stated 555 charges, as applicable.

556 C. Any tax imposed pursuant to this article shall not apply within the limits of any town located in 557 such county, where such town now, or hereafter, imposes a town meals tax or a town transient 558 occupancy tax on the same subject. If the governing body of any town within a county, however, provides that a county tax authorized by this article shall apply within the limits of such town, then such 559 560 tax may be imposed within such towns.

561 D. This tax shall be levied only if a food and beverage tax has been approved in a referendum within the county as provided by the second paragraph of subsection A of § 58.1-3833. No county in 562 563 which the levy of a food and beverage tax has been approved in a referendum pursuant to subsection A of § 58.1-3833 shall be required to submit an amendment to its meals tax ordinance or a further 564 565 question to the voters in a referendum prior to adopting an ordinance adopting or amending the tax 566 authorized by this article.

567 E. Nothing herein contained shall affect any authority heretofore granted to any county to levy a 568 food and beverage tax or a transient occupancy tax. 569

§ 58.1-3843. Scope of transient occupancy tax.

As used in this section, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Accommodations provider" means a person (i) owning, operating, managing, or controlling the 571 572 building or place where the room or space being rented is located, or (ii) who has acquired the right to 573 use or possess such room or space. 574

'Retail sale" means a sale to any person for any purpose other than for resale.

"Use or possession" means the use or possession or the right to the use or possession.

576 B. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, general or special, the tax imposed on transient room 577 rentals pursuant to the authority of this article shall be imposed only for the occupancy use or 578 *possession* of any room or space that is suitable or intended for occupancy by transients for dwelling, 579 lodging, or sleeping purposes.

580 In the case of the retail sale of any room or space furnished to a transient that is made by the 581 accommodations provider, the accommodations provider shall pay the tax imposed pursuant to this 582 article, computed based upon the total price paid for the use or possession of such room or space and shall remit the same to the locality. Such person shall separately state the amount of the tax on the bill, 583 584 invoice, or similar documentation and shall add the tax to the total price paid for the use or possession 585 of the room or space. Thereafter, such tax shall be a debt from the person renting the room or space to the accommodations provider. Such debt shall be recoverable at law in the same manner as other debts. 586

587 Nothing herein shall be construed or interpreted as prohibiting any person from contracting with an agent or other party to facilitate the rental of any room or space. If as part of a retail sale the agent or 588 589 other party collects the taxes applicable to the room or space, then such agent or other party shall (i) 590 separately state the amount of tax imposed pursuant to this article on the bill, invoice, or similar 591 documentation, (ii) collect the tax imposed pursuant to this article based upon the total price paid by 592 the ultimate consumer for the use or possession of the room or space, (iii) be deemed to be holding in 593 trust for the locality all taxes collected pursuant to this article, and (iv) be liable for the tax imposed 594 pursuant to this article by the applicable locality.

595 Nothing herein shall relieve the accommodations provider from liability for tax under this article on 596 the total amount received by the accommodations provider from an agent or other party under an 597 agreement allowing the agent or other party to facilitate the rental of any room or space.

598 It is the intent of the General Assembly that taxes imposed pursuant to this article on the rental of 599 any room, space, or unit be imposed once.

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