Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 351.101(a), Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Revenue from the municipal hotel occupancy tax may be used only to promote tourism and the convention and hotel industry, and that use is limited to the following:

(1) the acquisition of sites for and the construction, improvement, enlarging, equipping, repairing, operation, and maintenance of convention center facilities or visitor information centers, or both;

(2) the furnishing of facilities, personnel, and materials for the registration of convention delegates or registrants;

(3) advertising and conducting solicitations and promotional programs to attract tourists and convention delegates or registrants to the municipality or its vicinity;

(4) the encouragement, promotion, improvement, and application of the arts, including instrumental and vocal music, dance, drama, folk art, creative writing, architecture, design and allied fields, painting, sculpture, photography, graphic and craft arts, motion pictures, radio, television, tape and sound recording, and other arts related to the presentation, performance, execution, and exhibition of these major art forms;

(5) historical restoration and preservation projects or activities or advertising and conducting solicitations and promotional programs to encourage tourists and convention delegates to visit preserved historic sites or museums:

(A) at or in the immediate vicinity of convention center facilities or visitor information centers; or

(B) located elsewhere in the municipality or its vicinity that would be frequented by tourists and convention delegates;

(6) for a municipality located in a county with a population of one million or less, expenses, including promotion expenses, directly related to a sporting event in which the majority of participants are tourists who substantially increase economic activity at hotels and motels within the municipality or its vicinity; and

(7) subject to Section 351.1076, the promotion of tourism by the enhancement and upgrading of existing sports facilities or fields, including facilities or fields for baseball, softball, soccer, and flag football, if:

(A) the municipality owns the facilities or fields;

(B) the municipality:

(i) has a population of 80,000 or more and is located in a county that has a population of 350,000 or less;

(ii) has a population of at least 65,000 but not more than 70,000 and is located in a county that has a population of 155,000 or less; or

(iii) has a population of at least 34,000 but not more than 36,000 and is located in a county that has a population of 90,000 or less;

(iv) has a population of at least 13,000 but less than 39,000 and is located in a county that has a population of at least 200,000;

(v) has a population of at least 65,000 but less than 80,000 and no part of which is located in a county with a population greater than 150,000; or

(vi) is located in a county that:

(a) is adjacent to the Texas–Mexico border;

(b) has a population of at least 300,000; and
(c) does not have a municipality with a population greater than 500,000; and

(C) the sports facilities and fields have been used, in the preceding calendar year, a combined total of more than 10 times for district, state, regional, or national sports tournaments; and

(8) for a municipality with a population of at least 65,000 but less than 80,000, no part of which is located in a county with a population greater than 150,000, the construction, improvement, enlarging, equipping, repairing, operation, and maintenance of a coliseum or multiuse facility.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed by the House on April 28, 2009: Yeas 149, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 1789 on May 21, 2009: Yeas 136, Nays 5, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 18, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 19, 2009.


CHAPTER 403

H.B. No. 1802

AN ACT

relating to mobile food units in certain municipalities.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Chapter 437, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 437.0073 to read as follows:

Sec. 437.0073. MEDALLION FOR MOBILE FOOD UNITS IN CERTAIN POPULOUS MUNICIPALITIES. (a) This section applies only to a municipality with a population of 1.5 million or more.

(b) Any person desiring to operate one or more mobile food units in a municipality subject to this section other than restricted operations mobile food units shall obtain an individual medallion for each operating mobile food unit from the health officer of the municipality. Each medallion will be issued unit-by-unit only after an inspection reveals satisfactory compliance with the provisions of this chapter and applicable municipal regulations or ordinances relating to mobile food units. The medallions shall remain the property of the municipality.

(c) A person may not operate or cause to be operated any mobile food unit that does not possess a valid medallion issued by the health officer.

(d) A medallion shall be affixed by the health officer or the health officer's authorized agents on the mobile food unit in a conspicuous place where it can be viewed by patrons.

(e) Application for a medallion shall be made on forms provided by the health officer and must include:

(1) the applicant's full name and mailing address;
(2) the address of the location at which the mobile food unit is stationed when not in use;
(3) the business name and address of the commissary or other fixed food service establishment from which potentially hazardous food supplies are obtained;
(4) the address of the servicing area;