

**ACT No. 4**

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 16

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 47:338.218, relative to the town of Jonesboro; to authorize the governing  
3 authority of the town, subject to voter approval, to levy and collect a hotel occupancy  
4 tax; to provide for the use of the tax proceeds; and to provide for related matters.

5 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published  
6 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of  
7 Louisiana.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 47:338.218 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §338.218. Town of Jonesboro; hotel occupancy tax; authorization

11 A.(1) In addition to any other tax levied and collected, the governing  
12 authority of the town of Jonesboro may levy and collect a tax upon the paid  
13 occupancy of hotel rooms located within the town. The hotel occupancy tax shall not  
14 exceed three percent of the rent or fee charged for such occupancy.

15 (2) The word "hotel" as used in this Section shall mean and include any  
16 establishment, public or private, engaged in the business of furnishing or providing  
17 rooms or overnight camping facilities intended or designed for dwelling, lodging, or  
18 sleeping purposes to transient guests where such establishment consists of two or  
19 more guest rooms and does not encompass any hospital, convalescent or nursing  
20 home or sanitarium, or any hotel-like facility operated by or in connection with a  
21 hospital or medical clinic providing rooms exclusively for patients and their families.

22 (3) The person who exercises or is entitled to occupancy of the hotel room  
23 shall pay the hotel occupancy tax at the time the rent or fee for occupancy is paid.

24 "Person" as used in this Paragraph shall have the same definition as that contained  
25 in R.S. 47:301(8).

1           B. The governing authority of the town of Jonesboro shall impose the hotel  
 2           occupancy tax by ordinance. The governing authority may adopt such ordinance only  
 3           after a proposition authorizing the levy of the tax has been approved by a majority  
 4           of the electors of the town voting at an election held for that purpose in accordance  
 5           with the Louisiana Election Code. The governing authority may provide in the  
 6           ordinance necessary and appropriate rules and regulations for the imposition,  
 7           collection, and enforcement of the hotel occupancy tax.

8           C. The governing authority may enter into a contract with any public entity  
 9           authorized to collect sales or use taxes, under such terms and conditions as it may  
 10          deem appropriate, including payment of a reasonable collection fee, for the  
 11          collection of the hotel occupancy tax authorized by this Section. The hotel  
 12          occupancy tax shall be in addition to all taxes levied upon the occupancy of hotel  
 13          rooms located within the town.

14          D. Except as provided in Subsection C of this Section, the governing  
 15          authority of the town shall use the proceeds of the tax to fund tourism-related  
 16          activities and recreation programs within the town of Jonesboro.

17          Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2017; if vetoed by the governor  
 18          and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1,  
 19          2017, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_