

Regular Session, 2012

ACT No. 256

HOUSE BILL NO. 414

BY REPRESENTATIVE BARROW AND SENATORS BROOME AND DORSEY-COLOMB

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 33:4574(B)(6) and (F)(1)(a) and (b)(v), 4574.1.1(A)(6) and (L), and 4574.16(introductory paragraph) and to repeal R.S. 33:4574.1.1(H), relative to East Baton Rouge Parish; to provide relative to the Baton Rouge Area Convention and Visitors Bureau; to change the name of the bureau; to provide for legislative intent; to direct the Louisiana State Law Institute to change the name of the bureau in other provisions of law; and to provide for related matters.

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

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 33:4574(B)(6) and (F)(1)(a) and (b)(v), 4574.1.1(A)(6) and (L), and 4574.16(introductory paragraph) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§4574. Tourist commissions; creation; purpose; directors; powers

* * *

B. Pursuant to Article VI, Sections 19 and 30 of the Constitution of Louisiana, the following commissions and bureaus, hereafter collectively referred to in this Chapter as "tourist commissions" or "commissions", are hereby specifically created as special districts or commissions. Each such commission shall be a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the state of Louisiana, composed of the following territory:

* * *

1 facilities within the jurisdiction of the commission. Such tax shall not exceed the
2 following percentages of the rent or fee charged for such occupancy:

3 * * *

4 (6) ~~Baton Rouge Area Convention and Visitors Bureau~~ Visit Baton Rouge,
5 four percent subject to the provisions of Subsection GL of this Section.
6 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the aggregate rate of
7 occupancy taxes levied by all commissions in East Baton Rouge Parish shall not
8 exceed the rate authorized by this ~~Subparagraph~~ Paragraph.

9 * * *

10 L. ~~The Baton Rouge Area Convention and Visitors Bureau~~ Visit Baton
11 Rouge shall distribute and use the proceeds derived from one percent of the tax
12 levied pursuant to this Section for capital improvements and expansion of the
13 ~~Riverside Centroplex Arena and Exhibition Center~~ Baton Rouge Rivercenter and the
14 proceeds derived from the remaining three percent of the tax for such purposes as
15 determined by ~~the bureau~~ Visit Baton Rouge. If the governing authority of the city-
16 parish of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish abandons the planned capital
17 improvements and expansion of the ~~Riverside Centroplex Arena and Exhibition~~
18 ~~Center~~ Baton Rouge Rivercenter, the tax rate shall not exceed three percent. At such
19 time as all costs for the capital improvements and expansion of the ~~Riverside~~
20 ~~Centroplex Arena and Exhibition Center~~ Baton Rouge Rivercenter are paid in full,
21 the tax rate shall not exceed three percent.

22 * * *

23 §4574.16. ~~Baton Rouge Area Convention and Visitors Bureau~~ Visit Baton Rouge;
24 additional powers

25 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, ~~the Baton Rouge Area~~
26 ~~Convention and Visitors Bureau~~ Visit Baton Rouge shall have all powers necessary
27 or convenient to effectuate its purposes, including but not limited to the following
28 rights and powers:

29 * * *

1 Section 2. R.S. 33:4574.1.1(H) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

2 Section 3. The Baton Rouge Area Convention and Visitors Bureau shall be known
3 hereafter as Visit Baton Rouge and shall continue in existence and shall continue to be
4 composed and continue to exercise powers and duties as provided by law. The change of
5 name shall not affect any unfinished business of the bureau, nor shall it affect the status of
6 any law, document, or legal proceeding which refers to the bureau, nor shall it affect terms
7 of members of the governing board. In addition, the amendment and reenactment of R.S.
8 33:4574(F)(1)(a) and (b)(v) is only intended to change the name of the bureau and shall not
9 affect the terms of the governing board members.

10 Section 4. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby authorized and directed to
11 change "Baton Rouge Area Convention and Visitors Bureau" to "Visit Baton Rouge" in the
12 following provisions: R.S. 33:4574(F)(1)(b)(iv) and 9038.61(H) and R.S. 42:1123(33).

13 Section 5. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
14 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
15 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
16 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
17 effective on the day following such approval.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____