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ORDINANCE NUMBER __250

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A SPECIAL EXCISE TAX ON THE SALE OF OR CHARGE MADE FOR THE FURNISHING OF LODGING THAT IS SUBJECT TO TAX UNDER RCW 82.08; FIXING THE RATE OF THE TAX AND THE PURPOSE OF SAME; CREDIT PROVISION; ADMINISTRATION AND PENALTIES; AND ADDING A NEW CHAPTER TO THE WALLA WALLA COUNTY CODE.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Walla Walla County, Washington, that a new Chapter 3.14 be added Title 3 of the Walla Walla County Code as follows:

3.14.010 - Imposition

There is levied a special excise tax of four percent on the sale of or charge made for the furnishing of lodging that is subject to tax under Chapter 82.08 RCW. The tax imposed applies to the sale of or charge made for the furnishing of lodging by a hotel, rooming house, tourist court, motel, or trailer camp, and the granting of any similar license to use real property, as distinguished from the renting or leasing of real property. It shall be presumed that the occupancy of real property for a continuous period of one month or more constitutes a rental or lease of real property and not a mere license to use or enjoy same.

3.14.020 - Purpose

All funds collected from the imposition of this tax shall be used solely for the purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of tourism promotion, acquisition of tourism-related facilities, or the operation of tourism-related facilities, as authorized in Chapter 67.28 RCW.

3.14.030 - Rate

The rate of the tax shall be four (4) percent, which shall be in addition to any other tax imposed by the county; provided, the first two percent of the tax shall be deducted from the amount of tax the seller would otherwise be required to collect and pay to the Department of Revenue under Chapter 82.08 RCW.

3.14.040 - Credit Provision

Pursuant to Chapter 67.28 RCW, a credit is allowed against the county tax for the full amount of any city or town tax imposed under this section upon the same taxable event.

3.14.050 - Special Fund Created

There is created a special fund in the County Treasurer's office and all taxes collected under this chapter shall be placed in this special fund, to be used as outlined in 3.14.020, above.

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KAREN MARTIN COUNTY AUDITOR

3.14.060 - Administration

The Department of Revenue is designed as agent for the county for the purposes of collection and administration of the tax, and the Department is authorized to prescribe and utilize such forms and reporting procedures as the Department shall deem necessary and appropriate. The administration and collection of the tax imposed by this chapter shall be in accordance with the provisions of Chapters 82.08 and 82.32 RCW; provided that the Department shall receive no reimbursement for administrative costs.

3.14.070 - New Chapter

A new chapter shall be created in the Walla Walla County Code entitled Lodging Tax - Chapter 3.14.

3.14.080 - Penalty

Any seller who failed or refuses to collect tax as required, with the intent to violate the provisions of this chapter, or to gain some advantage or benefit, either direct or indirect, and any buyer who refuses to pay any tax due under this chapter, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by up to 30 days in jail, a fine of up to \$500.00, or by both fine and imprisonment.

3.14.090 - Severability

If any portion or provision of this chapter and ordinance, or its application to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of this chapter and ordinance, or the application of its provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

3.14.0100 - Effective Date

This chapter and ordinance shall take effect on August 1, 1999.

Done this <u>8th</u> day of <u>June</u> , 19 <u>99</u>	
Attest: Clerk of the Board	Chairman Chairman Chairman Chairman Commissioner
	Charles a. Mauden Commissioner

Constituting the Board of County Commissioners of Walla Walla County, Washington

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COUNTY OF WALLA WALLA Board of County Commissioners

P.O. Box 1506 315 West Main Walla Walla, Washington 99362 509/527-3200 509/527-3235 (Fax) 509/527-3244 (TDD)

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

TO: FROM: Connie R. Vinti, Clerk of the Board		
DEPT: Franklin CO. PA'S 1/2 FAXED BY:		
FAX: 609 545-213) PHONE:		
DATE: 923-03 PAGES (including cover page): 3		
RE: Ond. 250 (Walla Walla County)		
COMMENTS: Per your telephine réguest		
The dake-		

If you experience any problems with this facsimile, please call 509/527-3200.

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WALLA WALLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Courthouse, 315 West Main - P. O. Box 1506 Walla Walla, WA 99362 - (509) 527-3200

June 8, 1999

TO:

County Treasurer Kent Osborne

FROM:

Connie R. Vinti, Clerk of the Board

Attached please find copy of Walla Walla County Ordinance Number 250 imposing a tax on lodging with proceeds to be used for tourism promotion. According to statute, a separate fund must be established in your office.

Please advise if anything further needs to be done by this office. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me or Gordon Heimbigner, Financial Analyst.

Thank you.

attachments - as stated