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CC: Veldran, Katherine <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>

Date: 5/31/2016 5:33:01 PM

Subject: Veto - H.5011 - Local Option Tourism Tax

Attachments: R.208 H.5011 - Local Option Tourism Tax.pdf

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Rep. Atwater,

Below are some points and questions that could be addressed during the veto discussion of H.5011. We are happy to discuss this information with you in more detail. Thank you for all of your help.

Thank you,  
Haley

Talking Points:

- Local governments should only raise taxes on their citizens if agreed to through public referendum.
- Instead of upholding this commitment to the people, this bill would allow local taxes be re-imposed by ordinance.
- South Carolina citizens are already taxed too much. They should be allowed to decide for themselves if they want to pay to the government more out of each pay check.
- This bill would not secure that right, and therefore should be defeated.

Questions:

- How much of this penny actually goes to tax relief?
- Is it required to go to tax relief, or is that at the discretion of the county council?
  - It is at the discretion of county council.
- Is it true that if this bill passes, a local government can re-impose a tax without a public referendum?
  - Yes, that's true.
- Is it true that only up to 20% of this local tax can be used for property tax relief?
  - At the discretion of county council, only up to 20% may be used for tax relief.
- Do you agree with me that citizens should have a say on whether or not that should be taxed more?

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