

2025 -- H 6350

LC002842

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

A N A C T

RELATING TO TAXATION -- SALES AND USE TAXES -- LIABILITY AND
COMPUTATION

Introduced By: Representatives Cortvriend, Finkelman, Slater, Diaz, Carson, Hull, J.
Lombardi, Tanzi, and Morales

Date Introduced: May 16, 2025

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 44-18-36.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 44-18 entitled "Sales and
Use Taxes — Liability and Computation" is hereby amended to read as follows:

44-18-36.1. Hotel tax.

(a) There is imposed a hotel tax of five percent (5%) upon the total consideration charged
for occupancy of any space furnished by any hotel, travel packages, or room reseller or reseller as
defined in § 44-18-7.3(b) in this state. A house, condominium, or other resident dwelling shall be
exempt from the five percent (5%) hotel tax under this subsection if the house, condominium, or
other resident dwelling is rented in its entirety. The hotel tax is in addition to any sales tax imposed.
This hotel tax is administered and collected by the division of taxation and unless provided to the
contrary in this chapter, all the administration, collection, and other provisions of chapters 18 and
19 of this title apply. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit the powers of the convention
authority of the city of Providence established pursuant to the provisions of chapter 84 of the public
laws of 1980, except that distribution of hotel tax receipts shall be made pursuant to chapter 63.1
of title 42 rather than chapter 84 of the public laws of 1980.

(b) There is hereby levied and imposed, upon the total consideration charged for occupancy
of any space furnished by any hotel in this state, in addition to all other taxes and fees now imposed
by law, a local hotel tax at a rate of one percent (1%). Additionally, a local hotel tax, no greater
than two percent (2%), may also be levied. The local hotel tax shall be administered and collected

1 in accordance with subsection (a).

2 (c) All sums received by the division of taxation from the local hotel tax, penalties or
3 forfeitures, interest, costs of suit and fines shall be distributed at least quarterly, credited and paid
4 by the state treasurer to the city or town where the space for occupancy that is furnished by the
5 hotel is located. Unless provided to the contrary in this chapter, all of the administration, collection,
6 and other provisions of chapters 18 and 19 of this title shall apply.

7 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the city of Newport
8 shall have the authority to collect from hotels located in the city of Newport the tax imposed by
9 subsection (a) of this section.

10 (1) Within ten (10) days of collection of the tax, the city of Newport shall distribute the tax
11 as provided in § 42-63.1-3. No later than the first day of March and the first day of September in
12 each year in which the tax is collected, the city of Newport shall submit to the division of taxation
13 a report of the tax collected and distributed during the six (6) month period ending thirty (30) days
14 prior to the reporting date.

15 (2) The city of Newport shall have the same authority as the division of taxation to recover
16 delinquent hotel taxes pursuant to chapter 44-19, and the amount of any hotel tax, penalty and
17 interest imposed by the city of Newport until collected constitutes a lien on the real property of the
18 taxpayer.

19 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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- 1 This act would allow communities to increase their local share of hotel tax collection by
- 2 an additional two percent (2%).
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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