



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2001
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 732

Chairperson: Senator DiAnna R. Schimek
Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Date of Hearing: February 28, 2001

The following constitute the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

The basic purpose of this legislation is to provide counties with a population of less than three hundred thousand inhabitants (all counties other than Douglas County) the authority to spend lodging tax funds for some capital improvements to visitor attractions and facilities in their counties.

In its current form, the legislation would permit a county board in such a county to create a County Visitors Improvement Funds with the approval of their voters. The board would adopt a resolution and place the question on a ballot to be presented at a general, primary, or special election.

If approved by the voters, this would permit funds raised from the current 2% lodging tax to be used for both promotion and capital improvements, the division of expenditures being at the discretion of the county board and the local visitors committee. Funds could be transferred from the Promotion to the Improvement Fund as desired and needed.

Current LB 732 does not authorize counties other than Douglas County to impose the additional 2% lodging tax levy authority which is used in that county to fund capital improvements for visitor attractions and facilities.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator D. Paul Hartnett