



2015 SENATE BILL 733

February 11, 2016 – Introduced by Senators VINEHOUT and CARPENTER, cosponsored by Representatives PETRYK and BERCEAU. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Small Business, and Tourism.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 66.1113 (2) (a) and 66.1113 (2) (b); and *to create* 66.1113 (2)
2 (k) of the statutes; **relating to:** authorizing the city of Prescott to become a
3 premier resort area.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill allows the city of Prescott to become a premier resort area notwithstanding the fact that it does not meet the generally applicable requirement that at least 40 percent of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property within a political subdivision be used by tourism-related retailers (the 40 percent requirement). “Tourism-related retailers” is defined to be certain retailers who are classified in the standard industrial classification manual that is published by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The statutory definition includes 21 retailers who are so classified, including variety stores, dairy product stores, gasoline service stations, eating places, drinking places, and hotels and motels.

Currently, a number of cities and villages are authorized to enact an ordinance or adopt a resolution to become a premier resort area notwithstanding the fact that none of these cities or villages meet the 40 percent requirement. As is the case with the villages of Sister Bay, Ephraim, and Stockholm, and the city of Rhinelander, the premier resort area tax may not take effect in Prescott unless it is approved in a referendum of the electors.

A premier resort area may impose a tax at a rate of 0.5 percent of the gross receipts from the sale, lease, or rental of goods or services that are subject to the general sales and use tax and are sold by tourism-related retailers. The proceeds

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of the tax may be used only to pay for infrastructure expenses within the jurisdiction of the premier resort area. The definition of “infrastructure expenses” includes the costs of purchasing, constructing, or improving parking lots; transportation facilities, including roads and bridges; sewer and water facilities; recreational facilities; exposition center facilities; fire fighting equipment; and police vehicles.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 66.1113 (2) (a) of the statutes, as affected by 2015 Wisconsin Act 55,
2 is amended to read:

3 66.1113 (2) (a) The governing body of a political subdivision, by a two-thirds
4 vote of the members of the governing body who are present when the vote is taken,
5 may enact an ordinance or adopt a resolution declaring itself to be a premier resort
6 area if, except as provided in pars. (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j), and (k), at least ~~40%~~ 40
7 percent of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property within such political
8 subdivision is used by tourism-related retailers.

9 **SECTION 2.** 66.1113 (2) (b) of the statutes, as affected by 2015 Wisconsin Act 55,
10 is amended to read:

11 66.1113 (2) (b) Subject to pars. (g), (h), (i), and (j), and (k), a political subdivision
12 that is a premier resort area may impose the tax under s. 77.994.

13 **SECTION 3.** 66.1113 (2) (k) of the statutes is created to read:

14 66.1113 (2) (k) The city of Prescott may enact an ordinance or adopt a resolution
15 declaring itself to be a premier resort area under par. (a) even if less than 40 percent
16 of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property within Prescott is used by
17 tourism-related retailers. The city may not impose the tax authorized under par. (b)
18 unless the common council adopts a resolution proclaiming its intent to impose the

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1 tax and the resolution is approved by a majority of the electors in the city voting on
2 the resolution at a referendum, to be held at the first spring primary or election or
3 partisan primary or general election following by at least 70 days the date of adoption
4 of the resolution.

5 **SECTION 4. Effective date.**

6 (1) This act takes effect on the first day of the calendar quarter beginning at
7 least 120 days after publication.

8 (END)