

Regular Session, 2009

HOUSE BILL NO. 503

BY REPRESENTATIVE MONTOUCET

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 33:4574(B)(1), 4574.1.1(A)(1), and 4574.2(G) and to enact R.S.
3 33:4574.2(H) and 4574.17, relative to the Acadia Parish Convention and Visitors
4 Bureau; to change the name to the Acadia Parish Convention and Visitors
5 Commission; to provide for additional powers of the commission relative to debt,
6 funds, property, and contracting; to authorize the commission to issue bonds and
7 certificates of indebtedness; and to provide for related matters.

8 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published
9 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of
10 Louisiana.

11 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

12 Section 1. R.S. 33:4574(B)(1), 4574.1.1(A)(1), and 4574.2(G) are hereby amended
13 and reenacted and R.S. 33:4574.2(H) and 4574.17 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

14 §4574. Tourist commissions; creation; purpose; directors; powers

15 * * *

16 B. Pursuant to Article VI, Sections 19 and 30 of the Constitution of
17 Louisiana, the following commissions and bureaus, hereafter collectively referred
18 to in this Chapter as "tourist commissions" or "commissions", are hereby specifically
19 created as special districts or commissions. Each such commission shall be a body
20 politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the state of Louisiana, composed
21 of the following territory:

22 (1) Acadia Parish Convention and Visitors ~~Bureau~~ Commission composed
23 of all the territory in Acadia Parish.

24 * * *

1 §4574.1.1. Occupancy taxes levied by the commissions

2 A. For the purposes set forth in Paragraph (F)(3) of this Section, a
3 commission created pursuant to R.S. 33:4574(B) is authorized to levy and collect a
4 tax upon the occupancy of hotel rooms, motel rooms, and overnight camping
5 facilities within the jurisdiction of the commission. Such tax shall not exceed the
6 following percentages of the rent or fee charged for such occupancy:

7 (1) Acadia Parish Convention and Visitors ~~Bureau~~ Commission, four
8 percent.

9 * * *

10 §4574.2. Budget; borrowing money; audit

11 * * *

12 G.(1) The Acadia Parish Convention and Visitors Commission may purchase
13 land for the construction of a convention center and may borrow money for the
14 purchase of such land and for the construction of the convention center. The
15 commission shall comply with all of the following when borrowing money for these
16 purposes:

17 (a) The commission may borrow only from a licensed financial institution.

18 (b) The loan shall be secured by a first mortgage upon the immovable
19 property of the commission.

20 (c) The sum borrowed shall be less than the market value of the immovable
21 property pledged as security for the loan.

22 (d) The commission anticipates that it will be able to make payments under
23 such loan out of the revenue from taxes authorized by R.S. 33:4574.1.1 during the
24 period in which the loan is to be repaid.

25 (2) This Subsection shall be construed as supplemental and additional to the
26 provisions of Subsection B of this Section.

27 H. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to commissions in existence
28 prior to the effective date of Act No. 19 of the 1975 Regular Session of the
29 Legislature.

30 * * *

1 §4574.17. Acadia Parish Convention and Visitors Commission; additional powers

2 The Acadia Parish Convention and Visitors Commission shall have the

3 following powers necessary or convenient to effectuate its purposes:

4 (1) To acquire, purchase, lease, and use any property, movable or
5 immovable, tangible or intangible, or any interest therein, subject to the applicable
6 provisions of R.S. 33:4574.2(G).

7 (2) To sell, lease, transfer, or dispose of any property or interest therein
8 owned by it and to sublease any property or interest therein leased by it.

9 (3) To construct, develop, maintain, and operate buildings and other
10 facilities.

11 (4) To enter into contracts or cooperative endeavors for the operation or use
12 of its properties or other purposes.

13 (5) To incur debt, even if those monies cannot be paid out of the revenues
14 anticipated to be collected during the year in which the monies are borrowed, subject
15 to the applicable provisions of R.S. 33:4574.2(G).

16 (6) To pledge all or any part of its revenues, income, receipts, or funds and
17 to pledge or mortgage its properties as collateral or security for any indebtedness.

18 (7) To issue certificates of indebtedness pursuant to R.S. 33:2923.

19 (8) To issue bonds pursuant to Article VI, Section 33 of the Constitution of
20 Louisiana and other constitutional and statutory authority supplemental thereto.

21 Such bonds may be issued only after authorization by a majority of voters in the
22 district voting at an election called by the parish governing authority for that
23 purpose.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____