Date

The Honorable (Senator Name)

Florida Senate, District XX

XXX Senate Office Building

404 South Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Senator (Last Name):

It is with great concern that I write you today. With only one committee hearing, the House of Representatives has language in its tax package (HB7099) that allows coastal counties to use up to 10% of Tourist Development Taxes to fund general government services. I urge you to reject any provision that expands the use of Tourist Development Taxes beyond what is currently allowed by law.

The hospitality industry is experiencing record breaking visitation. This is largely due to the world class marketing program that has been funded by Tourist Development Taxes.

The hospitality industry already pays its fair share in taxes. We employ a million employees, have billions in infrastructure and property, and provide numerous goods and services. All of these are taxed.

Our industry collects Tourist Development Taxes to market and promote Florida. What happens when we experience an economic downturn? If expansion of the use of Tourist Development Taxes is permitted, what does the future hold? Where will it end?

Any reduction in Tourist Development Taxes means less to market and promote all that Florida has to offer visitors. I ask you to support the hospitality industry and oppose any expansion of the use of Tourist Development Taxes. Our future success depends on you.

Sincerely,

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