

Introduced by: Finance Committee
Introduction Date: April 27, 2010
Public hearing date: May 11, 2010
June 8, 2010
July 27, 2010
September 14, 2010
Action: Passed
Vote: 5-1

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

ORDINANCE #10-14

AN ORDINANCE BY THE BETHEL CITY COUNCIL INCREASING THE TRANSIENT LODGING BUSINESS TAX AND EXEMPTING SALES TAX FOR THE RENTAL OF ROOMS

WHEREAS, the City of Bethel "City" currently has established a transient lodging business tax in the amount of three percent (3%) of the gross receipts of the operator from the rental of rooms;

WHEREAS, the excise tax known as a "bed tax" is much higher in other communities in Alaska and represents an opportunity to realize income from transient visitors to the Bethel community;

WHEREAS, the City would be able to levy bed tax from additional visitors, including those from non-profit organizations;

WHEREAS, a transient lodging business tax does not require voter ratification to take effect;

WHEREAS, exempting sales tax for the rental of rooms would make an increased transient lodging business tax more attainable;

BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of Bethel, Alaska; that:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is permanent and general in nature and shall be placed in the Bethel Municipal Code.

SECTION 2. Amendment. Section 4.14.020, 4.14.100 (F), and 4.16.040 (AA) of the Code is hereby amended to read as follows (new language is underlined and deleted language is stricken out):

4.14.020 Levy, payment, collection and distribution of tax revenues.

Subject to the provisions of this chapter, there is levied a transient lodging business tax on all operators in an amount equal to twelve (12) percent of the gross receipts of the operator from the rental of rooms.

4.14.100 Maintenance and inspection of records.

F. During normal business hours, the City of Bethel finance director or the director's designee may, upon presentation of proper identification, conduct a bed count in any or all rooms being offered for rent at the premises. In addition, the total number of rooms being offered for rent must be listed on each operator's City tax return, using the remittance forms provided by the City.

4.16.040 Exemptions.

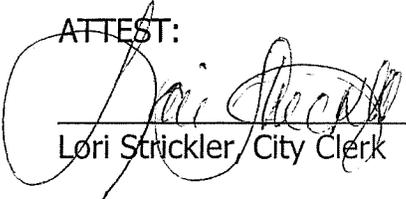
AA. Sales made by operators of a transient lodging business for the rental of rooms that are subject to the transient lodging business tax listed under section 4.14.020.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective for tax collection periods after July 1, 2010.

ENACTED THIS 14 DAY OF APRIL 2010 BY A VOTE OF 5 IN FAVOR AND 1 OPPOSED.



Joseph Klejka, Mayor

ATTEST:


Lori Strickler, City Clerk