

CHAPTER NO. 172

HOUSE BILL NO. 3292

By Representatives Buck, Winningham

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 3250

By Senator Burks

AN ACT relative to the authority of Macon County to levy and collect a privilege tax on new land development in the county in order to provide that new development contribute its fair share of the cost of providing public facilities and services made necessary by such new development.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

WHEREAS, Macon County is experiencing considerable growth in population and need for services and public facilities; and

WHEREAS, Macon County is in need of additional revenue with which to fund its capital improvement program to meet the needs of its growing citizenry; and

WHEREAS, a privilege tax on new development is a fair and equitable way to raise funds to meet the demand for additional public facilities; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This chapter shall be known and cited as the "Macon County Adequate Facilities Tax".

SECTION 2. As used in this act, unless a different meaning appears from the context:

(a) "Building" means any structure built for the support, shelter, or enclosure of persons, chattels, or movable property of any kind; the term includes a mobile home. "Building" does not mean any structures used primarily for agricultural purposes.

(b) "Building Permit" means a permit for development issued in Macon County, whether by the county or by any city therein.

(c) "Certificate of Occupancy" means a license for occupancy of a building or structure issued in Macon County, whether by the county or by an entity therein.

(d) "Commercial" means the development of any property for commercial use, except as may be exempted by this act.

(e) "Development" means the construction, building, erection, or improvement to land providing a building or structure or the addition to any building or structure, or any part thereof, which provides, adds to, or increases, the floor area of a residential or commercial use.

(f) "Dwelling Unit" means a room or rooms connected together constituting a separate, independent housekeeping establishment for owner occupancy, rental or lease on a daily, weekly, monthly, or longer basis physically separated from any other room(s) or dwelling units which may be in the same structure and containing independent cooking and sleeping facilities.

(g) "Floor Area" for residential development means the total of the gross horizontal area of all floors, including basements, cellars, or attics which is heated and/or air-conditioned living space, or designed to be finished into heated and/or air-conditioned living space at a future date.

(h) "Governing Body" means the County Commission of Macon County, Tennessee.

(i) "Person" means any individual, firm, co-partnership, joint venture, association, corporation, estate, trust, business trust, receiver, syndicate, or other group or combination acting as a unit, and the plural as well as the singular number.

(j) "Place of Worship" means that portion of a building, owned by a religious institution which has tax-exempt status, which is used for worship services and related functions; provided, however, that a place of worship does not include buildings or portions of buildings which are used for purposes other than for worship and related functions or which are not intended to be leased, rented or used by persons who do not have tax-exempt status.

(k) "Public Buildings" means a building owned by the State of Tennessee or any agency thereof, a political subdivision of the State of Tennessee including, but not necessarily limited to, counties, cities, school districts and special districts, or the federal government or any agency thereof.

(l) "Public Facility or Facilities" means a physical improvement undertaken by the county or city, including, but not limited to, the following: roads and bridges, parks and recreational facilities, jails and law enforcement facilities, schools, libraries, government buildings, fire stations, sanitary landfills, water, wastewater and drainage projects, airport facilities and other governmental, capital improvements benefiting the citizens of the county and/or city.

(m) "Residential" means the development of any property for a dwelling unit or units.

SECTION 3. It is the intent and purpose of this act to authorize Macon County to impose a tax on new development in the county payable at the time of issuance of a building permit so as to ensure and require that the persons responsible for new development share in the burdens of growth by paying their fair share for the cost of new and expanded public facilities made necessary by such development.

SECTION 4. Engaging in the act of new development within Macon County, except as provided in Section 6 herein, is declared to be a privilege upon which Macon County may, by resolution of the governing body, levy a tax.

SECTION 5. The governing body shall, by resolution, adopt administrative guidelines, procedures, regulations and forms necessary to properly implement, administer and enforce the provisions of this act.

SECTION 6. This act shall not apply to the development of:

- (a) Public buildings;
- (b) Places of worship;
- (c) Barns or outbuildings used for agricultural purposes;
- (d) Replacement structures for previously existing structures destroyed by fire or other disaster;
- (e) A structure owned by a non-profit corporation which is a qualified 501(c)3 corporation under the Internal Revenue Code;
- (f) Permanent residential structures replacing mobile homes where the mobile home is removed within (30) days of the issuance of the certificate of occupancy for the permanent residential structure, provided that the permanent structure is a residence for the owner and occupant of the mobile home and that owner and occupant have resided on the property for a period of not less than (3) years; and
- (g) Buildings moved from one (1) site within the county to another site within the county.

SECTION 7. For the exercise of the privilege described herein, Macon County may develop a tax rate schedule by which residential and commercial uses are classified by type for the purpose of imposition of the tax authorized herein.

SECTION 8. The tax established in this act shall be collected at the time of application or a building permit for the development as herein defined by the county or city official duly authorized in such jurisdiction to issue building permits or certificates of occupancy. The revenue collected from this tax shall be collected by the county building inspector, and the proceeds deposited with the County Trustee and used exclusively for capital projects including, but not limited to, debt service related to such improvement or projects, in the general fund, school fund, special revenue funds, highway fund, debt service fund or other capital project funds as designated by resolution of the board of County Commissioners of Macon County. No building permit for development as herein defined shall be issued in Macon County unless the tax has been paid in full to the county.

SECTION 9. The authority to impose this privilege tax on new development in Macon County is in addition to all other authority to impose taxes, fees, assessments, or other revenue-raising or land development regulatory measures granted either by the private or public acts of the State of Tennessee and the imposition of such tax, in addition to any other authorized tax, fee, assessment or charge, shall not be deemed to constitute double taxation.

SECTION 10. The provisions of this act shall in no manner repeal, modify or interfere with the authority granted by any other public or private law applicable to Macon County. This act shall be deemed to create an additional and alternative method for Macon County to impose

and collect taxes for the purpose of providing public facilities made necessary by new development in the county.

SECTION 11. If any provisions of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not effect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 12. This act shall have no effect unless it is approve by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Legislative Body of Macon County. Its approval or non-approval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the Legislative Body and certified to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 13. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 12.

PASSED: June 27, 2002


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this day of 2002

DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR

Pursuant to Article III, Section 18, of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, the Governor had House Bill No. 3292 in his possession longer than ten (10) days, so therefore the bill becomes law without the Governor's signature.