

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001

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SENATE BILL 70
House Committee Substitute Favorable 10/2/02

Short Title: Amend Definition of Convention Center.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 6, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT AMENDING THE DEFINITION OF A CONVENTION CENTER IN THE
STATE'S ABC LAW.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 18B-1000(1a) reads as rewritten:

"(1a) Convention center. – An establishment that meets either of the following requirements:

a. A publicly owned or operated establishment that is engaged in the business of sponsoring or hosting conventions and similar large ~~gatherings. Convention centers shall include gatherings,~~ including auditoriums, armories, civic centers, convention centers, and coliseums.

b. A privately owned facility located in a city that has a population of at least 200,000 but not more than 250,000 by the 2000 federal census and is located in a county that has previously authorized the issuance of mixed beverage permits by referendum. To qualify as a convention center under this subdivision, the facility shall meet each of the following requirements:

1. The facility shall be located within an area that has been designated as an Urban Redevelopment Area under Article 22 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes, and shall be certified by the appropriate local official as being consistent with the city's redevelopment plan for the area in which the facility is located.

2. The facility shall contain at least 7,500 square feet of floor space that is available for public use and shall be used exclusively for banquets, receptions, meetings, and similar gatherings.

1 3. The facility's annual gross receipts from the sale of
2 alcoholic beverages shall be less than fifty percent (50%)
3 of the gross receipts paid to all providers at permitted
4 functions for food, nonalcoholic beverages, alcoholic
5 beverages, service, and facility usage fees (excluding
6 receipts or charges for entertainment and ancillary
7 services not directly related to providing food and
8 beverage service). The person to whom a permit has
9 been issued for a privately owned facility shall be
10 required to maintain copies of all contracts and invoices
11 for items supplied by providers for a period of three
12 years from the date of the event.

13 A permit issued for a convention center shall be valid only for those
14 parts of the building used for ~~eonventions and banquets~~ conventions,
15 banquets, receptions, and other events, and only during regularly
16 scheduled ~~eonventions and banquets~~ activities."

17 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.