

# CHAPTER 2003-78

## House Bill No. 533

An act relating to county tourism promotion agencies; amending s. 125.01, F.S.; revising powers of the county governing body; authorizing the county to prohibit business entities that are not county tourism promotion agencies from using certain specified designations; amending s. 125.0104, F.S.; revising powers and duties of county tourism promotion agencies; authorizing the use of certain designations by said agencies; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (dd) is added to subsection (1) of section 125.01, Florida Statutes, to read:

125.01 Powers and duties.—

(1) The legislative and governing body of a county shall have the power to carry on county government. To the extent not inconsistent with general or special law, this power includes, but is not restricted to, the power to:

(dd) Prohibit a business entity, other than a county tourism promotion agency, from using names as specified in s. 125.0104(9)(e) when representing itself to the public as an entity representing tourism interests of the county levying the local option tourist development tax under s. 125.0104.

Section 2. Paragraph (e) is added to subsection (9) of section 125.0104, Florida Statutes, to read:

125.0104 Tourist development tax; procedure for levying; authorized uses; referendum; enforcement.—

(9) COUNTY TOURISM PROMOTION AGENCIES.—In addition to any other powers and duties provided for agencies created for the purpose of tourism promotion by a county levying the tourist development tax, such agencies are authorized and empowered to:

(e) Represent themselves to the public as convention and visitors bureaus, visitors bureaus, tourist development councils, vacation bureaus, or county tourism promotion agencies operating under any other name or names specifically designated by ordinance.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 2, 2003.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 2, 2003.