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April 27, 2010

Mr. Mark Haskins
Department of Taxation
P.O. Box 2475
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Dear Mr. *M. Haskins*:

This is to follow-up on Delegate Purkey's letter to you asking for an in-depth analysis of Senate Bill No. 452, which I patroned in the recently ended legislative session.

I understand that the Department of Taxation is going to provide a complete tax analysis of the bill, including all businesses in Virginia impacted and what needs to be accomplished in constructing a bill to address all of the concerns and unintended consequences raised by the Department of Taxation and the members of the House Finance Committee at its meeting on March 2, 2010.

It would be helpful at the conclusion of the analysis if the Department prepared a draft bill that can be reviewed and discussed and that can serve as the basis for a bill that I can introduce next session that accomplishes the objective of requiring on-line hotel service providers to remit hotel and sales taxes on the full price charged to the ultimate consumer. Of course, while accomplishing the stated objective, I would envision that any bill would also resolve all concerns and unintended consequences raised at the March 2nd meeting as well as any other issues the Department uncovers in its analysis. May I also suggest that the Department's analysis provide a list of all the legal and constitutional issues involved in Senate Bill No. 452 and how they have been remedied in the Department's draft. This way there should be no stones unturned when the bill is debated in 2011.

This issue remains one of my top legislative priorities, so it would be very helpful if you could complete your analysis and provide me with a draft by September 15th. That would allow time for me to consult with the interested parties.

As always, I look forward to working with you and the Department and greatly appreciate all your help in the past.

Yours truly,

Mary Margaret Whipple
Mary Margaret Whipple

cc: ✓ The Honorable Janie E. Bowen
The Honorable Harry R. (Bob) Purkey