

**\*\*For Immediate release\*\***

**Questions Posed on the Lodging Tax Initiative**

*-released by BCEDC, Inc. 3/6/2008*

Q: Why tax only the motels?

A: Residents should not have to bear more tax burdens. The lodging tax will allow us to tap into an untapped resource by taxing people from outside our communities and not local residents.

Q: Why should the tax money go to an organization that supports all of Baca County?

A: The town of Springfield has 1562 residents and there are around 4100 residents in Baca County. Anything that benefits Baca County will also have a positive impact on the town of Springfield, which would not be able to thrive without support of Baca County residents.

Q: Can the town of Springfield legally put forth a tax initiative and if passed, in turn give the money to the Baca County Economic Development Commission, Inc?

A: The Colorado Revised Statutes 31-15-901 stipulates the following:

“(1)The governing body of each municipality has the power:

(c)To aid and foster, by all lawful measures, associated charity organizations by appropriations and to grant the use of suitable rooms in the municipal buildings. No portion of any money so appropriated shall be given or loaned to any society, corporation, association, or institution that may be wholly or in part under sectarian or denominational control.”

Q: Will the lodging tax come from the profits of the motel owners?

A: No, the lodging tax will not come from the profits of the motel owners. The lodging tax will be applied to the total of the room rate and will be paid for by the customer. The lodging tax will then be collected just as sales tax is collected by the town of Springfield. For example if the room rate is \$50, the lodging tax at a rate of 3% would be \$1.50. Add the 2% city tax sales tax of \$1.00, the 2.9% state sales tax of \$1.45 and the total cost of the room would be \$53.95.

If you have a question that you would like addressed, please email it to

[webmaster@bacacountyedc.com](mailto:webmaster@bacacountyedc.com) For more information about the Baca County Economic Development Commission, Inc. please visit [www.bacacountyedc.com](http://www.bacacountyedc.com)