



## HAWDC e-HEADLINES

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### Mayor Bowser Proposes Hotel Bed Tax to Finance District's E911 Fund:

Mayor Bowser recently released her proposed budget for the District's 2020 fiscal year. As part of the budget, she has proposed an \$0.80 per room or suite rental/per night tax on hotels to help fund the District's Emergency and Non-Emergency Telephone Calling Systems Fund. This new bed tax would be an additional tax on top of what hotels already significantly contribute to the District's general coffers, as well as the separate E911 Fund.

HAWDC has already had discussions with Councilmembers regarding opposition to this proposed bed tax. Additionally, HAWDC will testify at two hearings this week, the first held by the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, and the second held by the Committee on Finance and Revenue, against the proposed tax. As you may recall, Mayor Bowser proposed a similar tax in 2017 for \$0.50 per night, and HAWDC was successful in defeating this proposal. HAWDC will continue to express that our members, and travelers to our city, generate substantial revenue for the District. There continues to be no reasonable rationale for why travelers, who have a tangential use of the E911 system, should be charged an additional bed tax for this fund. HAWDC will continue to meet with Councilmembers to voice our concerns regarding this proposed bed tax, and we will update members as this proposal works its way through the legislative process.

### Allied Member Spotlight:



As a trusted advisor and consultant to the Hotel Association, their mission is to consult with you on the issues that affect your industry on a day to day basis and help you manage the insurance challenges that are becoming

more complex.

USI is one of the largest insurance brokers in the United States providing risk management, asset preservation and benefit solutions that are specific and exclusive to the Hotel Industry. Their consultative approach allows them to understand your current needs and future goals so that they design a plan that helps you grow your business.

The Benefits Division of USI will deliver long-term solutions that afford quality benefits for employees and maximize your business potential. They provide a thorough analysis of benefit plans in line with cost efficiencies, effective and streamlined enrollment processes, legislative and ERISA compliance updates, human resource assistance and solutions, and many additional services you require to meet your

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business goals.

USI's Risk Management division affords crafted and personally designed programs that offer loss control, claims management and insurance protection for risks that include property protection; business income protection; general liability; workers' compensation; automobile; liquor liability; umbrella and excess liability; crime and employee dishonesty coverage; employment practices liability; directors and officers liability; pension trust/fiduciary liability; and a myriad of other insurance protections. In addition, there are other key insurance coverages specific to the Hotel Industry including personal grooming services liability for hotel salons, spas and other personal services; guest property protection for the loss or damage to the property of a guest that is in your care; and bonding for precious metals, jewelry documents and money of a guest whose care they have entrusted in you.

With a strong local presence for 45 years, nationally owned resources and global connected networks, USI will provide benefit solutions and insurance protection to your business class, family and leisure hotels on a local basis within the United States or around the world.

For more information please contact Holly Miller at (703) 205-8715.

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