

Chapter 605

(House Bill 636)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Transit Administration – ~~Pretax~~ Commuter Benefits Program

FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Transit Administration to include as part of a plan to meet certain transit needs improvements to its fare payment systems; specifying that the plan allow the Administration to process fare media in electronic form and provide electronic fare media ~~to employers~~ for distribution to employees; ~~requiring the Administration to implement certain fare payment systems in a manner that allows employees to enroll in a commuter benefits program online and use certain pretax contributions to pay for the electronic fare media;~~ and generally relating to electronic fare payment systems for transit services and ~~the~~ an employee ~~pretax~~ commuter benefits program.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Transportation

Section 7–301

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Transportation

7–301.

(a) The Administration shall prepare plans to meet the transit needs of the District and from time to time shall review and revise these plans.

(b) The plans shall specify:

(1) The transit facilities to be constructed or acquired, including the location of terminals, stations, and parking facilities;

(2) The character, nature, design, and location of the transit facilities;

(3) Whether the transit facilities are to be constructed or acquired by lease, purchase, or condemnation;

- (4) A timetable for providing the transit facilities;
- (5) Anticipated capital costs;
- (6) Estimated operating expenses and revenues;
- (7) The type of equipment to be used;
- (8) The areas to be served and the routes and schedules of service expected to be provided;
- (9) The expected fares and charges for service;
- (10) The plan of financing the capital costs and operation of the transit facilities;
- (11) When applicable, improvements in interjurisdictional commuter transit services including the location of corridors, routes, stations, and terminals; [and]

(12) IMPROVEMENTS TO FARE PAYMENT SYSTEMS THAT WILL ~~ALLOW THE ADMINISTRATION TO:~~

(I) ~~PROCESS~~ ALLOW FOR THE PROCESSING OF FARE MEDIA IN ELECTRONIC FORM; AND

(II) ~~PROVIDE TO EMPLOYERS~~ ELECTRONIC FARE MEDIA FOR DISTRIBUTION TO EMPLOYEES AS PART OF A COMMUTER BENEFITS PROGRAM; AND

[(12)] (13) Any other information that the Administration considers relevant.

(c) A plan may provide for demonstration or testing facilities and for the use of the facilities for research and development.

~~(D) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL IMPLEMENT IMPROVEMENTS TO ITS FARE PAYMENT SYSTEMS AS DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(12) OF THIS SECTION IN A MANNER THAT ALLOWS EMPLOYEES TO:~~

~~(1) ENROLL IN A COMMUTER BENEFITS PROGRAM ONLINE; AND~~

~~(2) USE PRETAX CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE EMPLOYEE'S SALARY TO PAY FOR THE ELECTRONIC FARE MEDIA.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2014.