

SENATE BILL 845

R2, B1

9lr2776

By: **Senators Ellis, Guzzone, Kagan, Kramer, Nathan–Pulliam, Patterson, Peters, Pinsky, Rosapepe, Washington, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Southern Maryland Rapid Transit Project – Requirements and Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Transportation to promptly
4 undertake all steps necessary to complete the design, engineering, and National
5 Environmental Policy Act process and secure a record of decision for the Southern
6 Maryland Rapid Transit Project; requiring the Governor to include in the annual
7 State budget, for certain fiscal years, an appropriation of a certain amount from the
8 Transportation Trust Fund for certain purposes; specifying that the appropriations
9 may be reduced under certain circumstances and in accordance with certain
10 requirements; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the Southern
11 Maryland Rapid Transit Project.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
13 That:

14 (a) In this section, “Southern Maryland Rapid Transit Project” means a
15 high–capacity, fixed–route rapid transit service, with light rail transit as the preferred
16 option, operating in a dedicated, grade–separated 18.7 mile transitway in the Maryland
17 Route 5/U.S. Route 301 corridor from the Branch Avenue Metrorail Station in Prince
18 George’s County to Waldorf and White Plains in Charles County.

19 (b) The State Department of Transportation shall promptly undertake all steps
20 necessary to complete the design, engineering, and National Environmental Policy Act
21 process and secure a record of decision for the Southern Maryland Rapid Transit Project.

22 (c) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Governor shall include
23 in the annual State budget an appropriation from the Transportation Trust Fund for the
24 requirements specified in subsection (b) of this section in amounts at least equal to:

25 (i) for fiscal year 2021, \$12,000,000; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) for fiscal year 2022, \$15,000,000.

2 (2) The appropriations required under paragraph (1) of this subsection may
3 be reduced by the amount of funding authorized in fiscal year 2020 to undertake the
4 Southern Maryland Rapid Transit Project in accordance with the requirements of
5 subsection (b) of this section.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
7 1, 2019.