

Chapter 393

(House Bill 288)

AN ACT concerning

Transportation – Metropolitan Planning Organizations – Notice and Public Hearing

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Transportation to give certain notice to certain members of the General Assembly before beginning the process of establishing, altering, or eliminating a Metropolitan Planning Organization for transportation planning purposes for certain areas in the State; requiring the Department to hold a public hearing within a certain area of the State to address the establishment, alteration, or elimination of a Metropolitan Planning Organization if any of certain members of the General Assembly requests the public hearing within a certain time period; and generally relating to notice and public hearings with respect to the establishment, alteration, or elimination of a Metropolitan Planning Organization.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Transportation
Section 2–103(e)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Transportation
Section 2–103(e–1)
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

2–103.

(e) (1) The Secretary is responsible for all planning activities of the Department and for the development and maintenance of a continuing, comprehensive, and integrated transportation planning process.

(2) In accordance with § 2–103.1 of this subtitle, the Secretary shall develop and, with the approval of the Governor, shall adopt a State Report on

Transportation to guide program development and to foster efficient and economical transportation services throughout the State.

(3) On or before the 3rd Wednesday of January of each year, the Secretary shall submit the State Report on Transportation to the General Assembly, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.

(E-1) (1) BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT BEGINS THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING, ALTERING, OR ELIMINATING A METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PURPOSES FOR AN AREA IN THE STATE DESIGNATED UNDER FEDERAL LAW AS AN URBANIZED AREA, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL GIVE NOTICE OF THE PENDING PROCESS BY CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, TO EACH MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPRESENTING:

(I) A STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT, ANY PORTION OF WHICH IS LOCATED IN THE URBANIZED AREA; AND

(II) A STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT THAT IS LOCATED WITHIN 1 MILE OF THE BORDER OF THE URBANIZED AREA.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING IN THE DESIGNATED URBANIZED AREA TO ADDRESS ISSUES RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT, ALTERATION, OR ELIMINATION OF A METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION IF A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHO IS PROVIDED NOTICE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION REQUESTS THE PUBLIC HEARING WITHIN 45 DAYS OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTICE.

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

Approved by the Governor, May 5, 2014.