
By: Senator Middlebrooks

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 1996

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 15, 1996

CHAPTER ____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Mass Transit Administration - Light Rail Transit System - ~~Fare Collection~~ Security**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Mass Transit Administration, by a certain date, to
4 ~~institute a fare collection system that utilizes, at each light rail transit stop, fare~~
5 ~~collection agents or automatic gates designed to restrict access to individuals who~~
6 ~~have prepaid the applicable fare~~ install and maintain a certain video monitoring
7 system, and to take any other actions considered necessary by the Mass Transit
8 Administrator to ~~eliminate~~ restrict public access to unattended transit vehicles ~~and~~
9 ~~facilities~~ within the light rail transit system; ~~requiring the Administration to report~~
10 ~~to the Legislative Policy Committee of the General Assembly before a certain date~~
11 ~~on the implementation of this Act~~; and generally relating to ~~the collection of fares~~
12 ~~within the light rail transit system~~ actions to maintain and enhance security on the
13 light rail transit system.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article - Transportation
16 Section 7-101(a), (b), (f), (h), and (n)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
20 Article - Transportation
21 Section 7-704.1
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

2

1 **Article - Transportation**

2 7-101.

3 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

4 (b) "Administration" means the Mass Transit Administration.

5 (f) "Light rail transit" means rail transit which is electrically powered and can
6 operate in mixed traffic with automobiles.

7 (h) "Proof of fare payment" means evidence of fare prepayment authorized by the
8 Administration for the use of transit service.

9 (n) "Transit vehicle" means a mobile device used in rendering transit service.

10 7-704.1.

11 (a) In this section, "unattended transit vehicle or facility" means a transit vehicle
12 or facility the entrance of which is not controlled by the presence of an authorized fare
13 collection agent of the Administration.

14 (b) Any person entering an unattended transit facility or vehicle owned or
15 controlled by the Administration for the purpose of obtaining transit service shall prepay
16 the applicable fare charged by the Administration in the required manner.

17 (c) If a person fails to exhibit proof of fare payment and a police officer or an
18 authorized agent of the Administration requests the person to provide identification, the
19 person shall provide:

20 (1) The person's true name and address; and

21 (2) Any written verification of the person's true name and address in the
22 person's possession.

23 (d) (1) Upon receipt of satisfactory evidence of identification and a written
24 promise to appear in court, a person failing to exhibit proof of fare payment may be
25 issued a citation by an authorized agent of the Administration or a police officer.

26 (2) A police officer may arrest a person in lieu of the issuance of a citation
27 when:

28 (i) The officer is not furnished satisfactory evidence of identity; or

29 (ii) The officer has reasonable grounds to believe the person will
30 disregard a written promise to appear; or

31 (iii) The person refuses to sign a written promise to appear after being
32 advised by the officer that such refusal may result in the person's arrest.

33 (e) The form of the citation shall be prescribed by the District Court and shall
34 contain:

35 (1) The offense charged;

3

1 (2) A notice to appear in District Court on the date shown on the citation or
2 when notified by the Court;

3 (3) A promise to appear to be signed by the person charged;

4 (4) The signature and title of the authorized issuer; and

5 (5) Such other information as the Administration and the Court shall
6 require.

7 (f) (1) A person shall comply with the notice to appear in District Court by:

8 (i) Appearing in person;

9 (ii) Appearance by counsel; or

10 (iii) Payment of the fine in advance of trial.

11 (2) (i) A person who fails to comply with the notice to appear shall be
12 guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of \$100.

13 (ii) In addition, the Court may notify the person by mail at the address
14 indicated on the citation that a warrant for the person's arrest may be issued unless,
15 within 15 days from the mailing of the notice, the person:

16 1. Pays the fine or posts a penalty deposit on the charge as
17 stated on the citation; and

18 2. Posts a penalty deposit of \$100 for failing to appear.

19 (G) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION, BY JULY 1,
20 1997, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL:

21 (1) ~~INSTITUTE A FARE COLLECTION SYSTEM THAT UTILIZES, AT EACH~~
22 ~~STOP IN THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM WHERE PASSENGERS BOARD AND~~
23 ~~DEPART TRANSIT VEHICLES, AUTHORIZED FARE COLLECTION AGENTS OR~~
24 ~~AUTOMATIC GATES DESIGNED TO RESTRICT ACCESS TO INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE~~
25 ~~PREPAID THE APPLICABLE FARE~~ INSTALL AND MAINTAIN A VIDEO MONITORING
26 SYSTEM ON ALL LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT VEHICLES TO ENHANCE SECURITY ON THE
27 LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM; AND

28 (2) TAKE ANY OTHER ACTIONS REASONABLY CONSIDERED BY THE
29 ADMINISTRATOR TO BE NECESSARY TO ~~ELIMINATE~~ RESTRICT PUBLIC ACCESS TO
30 ANY UNATTENDED TRANSIT VEHICLE ~~OR FACILITY~~ WITHIN THE LIGHT RAIL
31 TRANSIT SYSTEM.

32 SECTION 2. ~~AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That by January 1, 1997, the~~
33 ~~Mass Transit Administration shall report to the Legislative Policy Committee of the~~
34 ~~General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, on the~~
35 ~~progress being made by the Administration in implementing this Act.~~

36 SECTION 3. ~~AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect~~
37 October 1, 1996.

