

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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By: Delegates Pendergrass, Rosapepe, Frush, Bobo, Turner, and Menes

Introduced and read first time: February 20, 1997

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Establishment of a Transit Management District Within a**
3 **Multijurisdictional Region**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to study the feasibility of establishing a
5 Transit Management District to provide a regionally-based transportation system
6 which would service areas not adequately served by existing public transportation
7 systems in certain areas of Howard, Prince George's, Anne Arundel, and
8 Montgomery Counties and the City of Laurel; specifying the composition, powers,
9 duties, and termination of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report its
10 findings and recommendations, including recommendations for legislation, by a
11 certain date; and generally relating to the Task Force to study the feasibility of and
12 make recommendations for legislation to establish a Transit Management District.

13 WHEREAS, A need appears to exist to establish a Transit Management District to
14 provide mass transportation facilities to service residences and businesses in certain
15 portions of Prince George's, Howard, Anne Arundel, and Montgomery Counties and the
16 City of Laurel; and

17 WHEREAS, The Corridor Transportation Corporation, a nonprofit private
18 corporation, has been providing bus service to residents and businesses within the
19 four-county/City of Laurel area for approximately 8 years; and

20 WHEREAS, The system has currently been expanded to provide services to a
21 significant portion of Howard County in addition to the service currently being provided
22 within the four-county area roughly adjacent to the City of Laurel; and

23 WHEREAS, The provision of funding for the current system requires the filtering
24 of funds through the jurisdictions served by the system; and

25 WHEREAS, There does not exist any regional entity to provide recommendations
26 for mass transit operations for the region currently serviced by the bus system; and

27 WHEREAS, Management of the existing system might be greatly enhanced without
28 affecting local government prerogatives through a State created district which would be
29 eligible for direct State funding to provide services within the district; and

30 WHEREAS, The establishment of a Transit Management District for the region
31 could serve as a direct funding recipient for State grants, as well as ensuring the
32 continued operation of the existing system, providing a mechanism for the development of

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1 new initiatives to enhance the transportation system servicing the region and providing a
2 service to participating jurisdictions; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
4 Governor is requested to appoint a 12-person Task Force to study the feasibility of a
5 transportation management district to provide recommendations relating to mass
6 transportation and implement transportation policies and facilities consisting of the
7 following members:

8 (1) Two members of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the
9 House of Delegates;

10 (2) Two members of the Maryland Senate appointed by the President of the
11 Senate;

12 (3) One member appointed by the County Executive of Prince George's County;

13 (4) One member appointed by the County Executive of Howard County;

14 (5) One member appointed by the County Executive of Montgomery County;

15 (6) One member appointed by the County Executive of Anne Arundel County;

16 (7) Two members designated by the Board of Directors of the Corridor
17 Transportation Corporation;

18 (8) One member appointed by the Mayor of the City of Laurel; and

19 (9) One member from the public at large; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Governor shall designate the Chairperson of the Task
21 Force; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That staff support for the Task Force shall be provided by the
23 Maryland Transportation Authority; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall:

25 (1) Review current information and studies regarding the mechanisms
26 available for funding public mass transportation facilities within the four-county/City of
27 Laurel region;

28 (2) Assess the performance of the Corridor Transportation Corporation and
29 its effectiveness in providing mass transit services as a public, nonprofit corporation to
30 residences and businesses within the region and to explore mechanisms for increasing the
31 effectiveness of the current system;

32 (3) Review current mechanisms available for support of a Transit
33 Management District under applicable Maryland law; and

34 (4) Develop recommendations deemed appropriate for implementation of
35 existing law or changes in statutes, regulations, programs, and guidelines to establish a
36 Transit Management District to serve the mass transit purposes within the region; and be
37 it further

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1 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall make a final report to the Governor and,
2 subject to § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly not later
3 than October 1, 1997.