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By: **Chairman, Budget and Taxation Committee (Departmental -  
Transportation)**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2001

Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Budget and Taxation, February 7, 2001

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Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 7, 2001

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Transportation - Low-Income Workers - Job Access Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a job access program to provide grants to  
4 transportation providers for job access projects; requiring the Secretary of  
5 Transportation to make grants to transportation providers that meet certain  
6 criteria under certain circumstances; requiring the Secretary under certain  
7 circumstances to consult with the local department of social services before  
8 approving a certain application; requiring the Secretary to give priority to  
9 certain areas of the State when allocating funds under the job access program;  
10 requiring a transportation provider that receives funds for a capital expenditure  
11 to expend a matching fund of a certain amount; requiring a transportation  
12 provider that receives funds for operating expenditures to expend a matching  
13 fund of a certain amount; requiring a transportation provider to use certain  
14 funds only for the acquisition or replacement of equipment or the operating costs  
15 of a job access project; requiring a transportation provider that receives a  
16 certain grant to consult with the local department of social services to make a  
17 certain determination; requiring a transportation provider to cooperate with  
18 certain other transportation providers to best serve the transportation needs of  
19 low-income workers; requiring certain transportation providers to submit a  
20 certain report to the Secretary; requiring the Secretary to encourage a  
21 transportation provider to continue to maximize the use of certain funds and to  
22 enter into certain agreements; providing that certain funds be used to  
23 supplement and not supplant existing funds used by a transportation provider  
24 of transportation services; authorizing the Secretary to adopt certain  
25 regulations; providing for the construction of this Act; defining certain terms;  
26 and generally relating to a job access program.

1 BY adding to  
2 Article - Transportation  
3 Section 2-103.6  
4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
5 (1993 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

8 **Article - Transportation**

9 2-103.6.

10 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
11 INDICATED.

12 (2) "JOB ACCESS PROJECT" MEANS A PROGRAM TO PROVIDE  
13 REASONABLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO EMPLOYMENT OR JOB-RELATED  
14 ACTIVITIES FOR LOW-INCOME WORKERS THAT:

15 (I) FACILITATES TRIPS TO AND FROM JOBS AND OTHER  
16 EMPLOYMENT RELATED ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING CHILD CARE, JOB SKILLS  
17 ENHANCEMENT, AND EMPLOYMENT SEEKING ACTIVITIES; AND

18 (II) SERVES LOW-INCOME WORKERS WITHIN A SERVICE AREA  
19 THAT IS SPECIFIED BY A TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER.

20 (3) "LOW-INCOME WORKER" MEANS A PERSON THAT MEETS THE  
21 POVERTY THRESHOLD THAT IS ESTABLISHED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
22 COMMERCE, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS FOR A GIVEN YEAR.

23 (4) "TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER" MEANS A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ENTITY  
24 THAT PROVIDES TRANSIT SERVICE TO MORE THAN ONE INDIVIDUAL.

25 (B) (1) THERE IS A JOB ACCESS PROGRAM TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO  
26 TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS FOR JOB ACCESS PROJECTS.

27 (2) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF  
28 THIS SECTION AND SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS IN THE ANNUAL  
29 STATE BUDGET, THE SECRETARY SHALL MAKE GRANTS TO A TRANSPORTATION  
30 PROVIDER THAT:

31 (I) OPERATES A JOB ACCESS PROJECT THAT:

32 1. TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE TRANSPORTATION NEEDS OF  
33 LOW-INCOME WORKERS WITHIN THE AREA OF SERVICE DEFINED BY THE  
34 TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER; AND



1 (III) DEVELOPING A NEW TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM WITH THE USE  
2 OR ASSISTANCE OF SUBSIDIZED VOLUNTEERS; OR

3 (IV) ALLOWING INDIVIDUALS OTHER THAN LOW-INCOME WORKERS  
4 TO USE THE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE JOB ACCESS PROJECT  
5 TO THE EXTENT EXCESS CAPACITY IS AVAILABLE.

6 (7) EACH TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER THAT RECEIVES A GRANT  
7 UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE SECRETARY THAT DETAILS  
8 HOW THE GRANT WAS EXPENDED ON THE JOB ACCESS PROJECT.

9 (D) (1) THE SECRETARY SHALL ENCOURAGE A TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER  
10 TO:

11 (I) CONTINUE TO MAXIMIZE USE OF EXISTING FUNDING  
12 PROGRAMS FOR A JOB ACCESS PROJECT; AND

13 (II) ENTER INTO COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER LOCAL  
14 OR STATE TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS.

15 (2) THE SECRETARY MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ARE NECESSARY  
16 TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

17 (E) ANY FUNDS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE USED TO  
18 SUPPLEMENT AND SHALL NOT SUPPLANT EXISTING FUNDS USED BY A  
19 TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
21 July 1, 2001.