

HOUSE BILL 681

R2

71r0909

By: **Delegates Rudolph, James, Riley, Smigiel, Sossi, and Walkup**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2007

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Transit Administration – BRAC – MARC Penn Line Extension**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Transit Administration to extend certain
4 passenger railroad services to Elkton by a certain date by negotiating a certain
5 contract with Amtrak; declaring that it is the intent of the General Assembly
6 that the Administration provide certain passenger railroad service to Aberdeen
7 and Edgewood by a certain date; declaring that it is the intent of the General
8 Assembly that the Administration develop plans to provide certain passenger
9 railroad service to Elkton and the Town of North East by certain dates;
10 declaring that it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Administration
11 enter into discussions, by a certain date, with the Southeastern Pennsylvania
12 Transportation Authority, Amtrak, and other entities to provide certain
13 passenger railroad service to Wilmington, Delaware; and generally relating to
14 passenger railroad services and the Maryland Transit Administration.

15 Preamble

16 WHEREAS, The federal Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC)
17 process will result in an influx of military and nonmilitary personnel and their
18 families to the State; and

19 WHEREAS, Due to the BRAC process, the resulting increase in residents and
20 jobs in the northeast region of the State will place a significant strain on the region's
21 existing transportation infrastructure; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, Meeting the growing transportation needs of the northeast region
2 of Maryland will require enhanced passenger railroad service; now, therefore,

3 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
4 MARYLAND, That:

5 (a) In accordance with subsection (b) of this section, by July 1, 2008, the
6 Administration shall extend MARC passenger railroad service on the Penn line to
7 Elkton.

8 (b) To fulfill the requirement of subsection (a) of this section, the Maryland
9 Transit Administration shall negotiate a contract with Amtrak to provide at least one
10 morning and one evening passenger railroad service to Elkton.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the
12 General Assembly that, by July 1, 2008, the Maryland Transit Administration provide
13 additional passenger railroad service to Aberdeen and Edgewood.

14 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the
15 General Assembly that, by July 1, 2010, the Maryland Transit Administration develop
16 a plan to provide full passenger railroad service to Elkton.

17 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the
18 General Assembly that, by July 1, 2008, the Maryland Transit Administration develop
19 a plan to provide passenger railroad service to the Town of North East.

20 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the
21 General Assembly that, by July 1, 2012, the Maryland Transit Administration initiate
22 discussions with the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, Amtrak,
23 and other entities to provide a passenger railroad service from Elkton, Maryland, to
24 Wilmington, Delaware.

25 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 2007.