

SENATE BILL 461

R2, K3

7lr1347

By: **Senators Pugh, Britt, Brochin, Jones, Kelley, Lenett, Madaleno, McFadden, Muse, Peters, Pinsky, Raskin, and Robey**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2007

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Labor and Employment – Maryland Workforce Investment Act – Transit**
3 **Service for Low–Income Individuals**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Transportation to provide
5 certain transit service to certain individuals who are engaged in an employment
6 and training program under the Maryland Workforce Investment Act; requiring
7 the State Human Resource Investment Council to reimburse the Department of
8 Transportation for the cost of certain transit service to certain individuals; and
9 generally relating to transit service for low–income individuals participating in
10 a certain employment and training program.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Labor and Employment
13 Section 11–502 and 11–504
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
17 Article – Labor and Employment
18 Section 11–503(c) and (m)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
22 Article – Transportation

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Section 7–101(d) and (m)
2 Annotated Code of Maryland
3 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

6 **Article – Labor and Employment**

7 11–502.

8 (a) It is State policy to coordinate all the resources available from federal,
9 State and local governments, business, labor, and community based organizations to
10 foster and promote a balanced, equitable, and cost–effective employment and training
11 system. To effectuate this policy there shall be consultation between the Governor and
12 the General Assembly in implementing the federal Workforce Investment Act and this
13 subtitle.

14 (b) It is the State’s goal to assist its citizens in obtaining gainful employment
15 and in reducing dependence on public assistance and unemployment insurance
16 programs by:

17 (1) preparing unskilled youth and adults who are economically
18 disadvantaged for entry into the work force;

19 (2) retraining those who have lost jobs or who must upgrade or replace
20 their work skills or both; and

21 (3) providing training and related services, **INCLUDING SUPPORTIVE**
22 **SERVICES FOR LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS**, to increase the employability of those
23 who encounter barriers to employment.

24 (c) It is also the State’s goal to develop a well trained productive work force
25 which meets the needs of a changing economy by:

26 (1) developing and ensuring maximum utilization of timely statewide
27 labor market information;

28 (2) linking employment and training services with economic
29 development efforts;

1 (3) providing enhanced employment and training capabilities specially
2 designed to meet the needs of business and industry, including industries that utilize
3 advanced technology applications; and

4 (4) encouraging and initiating innovative employment and training
5 strategies.

6 11-503.

7 (c) “Low-income individual” means an individual who:

8 (1) receives, or is a member of a family which receives, cash welfare
9 payments under a federal, State, or local income-based public assistance program;

10 (2) received an income, or is a member of a family that received a total
11 family income for the 6-month period prior to application for the program involved
12 (exclusive of unemployment compensation, child support payments, payments
13 described in paragraph (1) of this subsection, and old age and survivors insurance
14 benefits received under Section 202 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 402)) that,
15 in relation to family size, does not exceed the higher of:

16 (i) the poverty level for an equivalent period; or

17 (ii) 70 percent of the lower living standard income level for an
18 equivalent period;

19 (3) is a member of a household that receives food stamps or has been
20 determined within the 6-month period prior to application for the program involved to
21 be eligible to receive food stamps pursuant to the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. §
22 2011 et seq.);

23 (4) is a foster child on behalf of whom State or local government
24 payments are made;

25 (5) in cases permitted by regulations promulgated by the Secretary, is
26 an adult individual with a disability whose own income meets the requirements of a
27 program described in paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection, but who is a member of a
28 family whose income does not meet such requirements; or

29 (6) qualifies as a homeless individual, as defined in subsections (a) and
30 (c) of § 103 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. § 11302).

1 (m) "Supportive services" means services such as transportation, child care,
2 dependent care, housing, and needs-related payments that are necessary to enable an
3 individual to participate in activities authorized under the federal Act, consistent with
4 the federal Act.

5 11-504.

6 (a) A workforce investment training program is established to implement the
7 federal Act.

8 (b) (1) This program shall provide employment, training, supportive and
9 related services for unemployed individuals who are low income, for dislocated
10 workers, and for those who are not low income, but who qualify under the federal Act
11 as having barriers to employment, including, but not limited to, displaced
12 homemakers, school dropouts, teenage parents, individuals with disabilities, older
13 workers, veterans, and other participants as defined by the federal Act.

14 (2) (I) **THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL**
15 **PROVIDE TRANSIT SERVICE, AS DEFINED UNDER § 7-101 OF THE**
16 **TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE, AT NO CHARGE TO ANY LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUAL**
17 **WHILE THE INDIVIDUAL IS ENGAGED IN EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES**
18 **UNDER THIS PROGRAM.**

19 (II) **THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL REIMBURSE THE**
20 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE COST OF TRANSIT SERVICE**
21 **PROVIDED TO A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH TO THE**
22 **EXTENT THE STATE COUNCIL RECEIVES FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR**
23 **TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS.**

24 (c) The County Commissioners of Carroll County may appropriate funds
25 necessary to enter into contracts with private or public enterprises for the training or
26 retraining of workers of those enterprises.

27 **Article - Transportation**

28 7-101.

29 (d) "District" means:

30 (1) The Metropolitan Transit District, consisting of Baltimore City,
31 Baltimore County, Anne Arundel County, and other areas as designated by the

1 Secretary after consultation and coordination with the affected jurisdiction and subject
2 to the provisions of the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority Compact; and

3 (2) Any area in which railroad service is performed under contract
4 with the Administration or in which railroad facilities are owned by the
5 Administration.

6 (m) (1) "Transit service" means the transportation of persons and their
7 packages and baggage and of newspapers, express, and mail in regular route, special,
8 or charter service by means of transit facilities between points within the District.

9 (2) "Transit service" does not include any:

10 (i) Taxicab service;

11 (ii) Vanpool operation; or

12 (iii) Railroad service.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2007.