

SENATE BILL 60

R2

9lr0058

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Chair, Finance Committee (By Request – Departmental – Public Service Commission)**

Requested: October 29, 2008

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2009

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Transit Administration – Mass Transit Service Alterations – Public**
3 **Service Commission and People’s Counsel Reporting Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing a requirement that the Maryland Transit
5 Administration refer certain matters to the Public Service Commission and the
6 People’s Counsel to the Commission for consideration and recommendations
7 prior to holding certain public hearings; repealing a requirement that the
8 Commission and the People’s Counsel submit certain reports to the
9 Administration relating to mass transit; making conforming changes; and
10 generally relating to reporting requirements of the Public Service Commission
11 and the People’s Counsel relating to mass transit.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Transportation
14 Section 7–506(a)(1)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2008 Replacement Volume)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
18 Article – Transportation
19 Section 7–506(e)
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2008 Replacement Volume)

22 BY repealing
23 Article – Transportation
24 Section 7–507
25 Annotated Code of Maryland
26 (2008 Replacement Volume)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Transportation**

4 7–506.

5 (a) (1) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, until a public
6 hearing is held on the matter, the Administration may not:

7 (i) Fix or revise any fare or rate charged the general public;

8 (ii) Establish or abandon any bus or rail route listed on a
9 published timetable;

10 (iii) Change a bus or rail route alignment listed on a published
11 timetable, unless the change is needed because of temporary construction or changes
12 in the road network; or

13 (iv) Establish or abandon a rail transit station.

14 (e) Before calling a hearing under this section, the Administration shall file
15 at its main office and make available for public inspection:

16 (1) Its report on the subject matter of the hearing; **AND**

17 (2) [Any report received from the Public Service Commission under §
18 7–507 of this subtitle; and

19 (3)] If the hearing was requested under subsection (c) of this section,
20 the written request for the hearing and all documents filed in support of it.

21 [7–507.

22 (a) Except for temporary or emergency changes in matters affecting service,
23 the Administration shall refer to the Public Service Commission and the People’s
24 Counsel to the Public Service Commission, for consideration and recommendations
25 before any hearing held under § 7–506 of this subtitle:

26 (1) Any matter that the Administration considers might affect the
27 operation of the publicly and privately owned or controlled transit facilities as a
28 coordinated regional transit system; and

29 (2) Any matter on which the Administration has called a hearing
30 under § 7–506 of this subtitle.

1 (b) (1) The Public Service Commission shall give a matter referred to it
2 under this section preference over any other matters pending before it and, as soon as
3 possible, shall prepare and send its report on the matter to the Administration. If the
4 People's Counsel to the Public Service Commission does not adopt the report of the
5 Public Service Commission, he may file a separate report at the time that the report of
6 the Public Service Commission is filed.

7 (2) The Administration may request the Public Service Commission or
8 the People's Counsel to reconsider any part of its report or to make any supplemental
9 report that the Administration considers necessary.

10 (3) All of these reports are advisory only.

11 (c) Any report that the Public Service Commission or the People's Counsel
12 submits to the Administration shall consider, among other things:

13 (1) The impact on the revenues of both public and private transit
14 facilities; and

15 (2) The probable effect of the referred matter on:

16 (i) The operation of the publicly and privately owned or
17 controlled transit facilities as a coordinated regional system;

18 (ii) Passenger movements;

19 (iii) Fare structures; and

20 (iv) Service.]

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 2009.