

# SENATE BILL 693

R2

3lr1640  
CF 3lr2305

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By: **Senator Waldstreicher**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Transportation – Assaults on Public Transit Operators – Report**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Transit Administration to submit a certain  
4 annual report on assaults on public transit operators to certain persons; and  
5 generally relating to assaults on public transit operators.

6 BY adding to  
7 Article – Transportation  
8 Section 7–714  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Transportation**

14 **7–714.**

15 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
16 INDICATED.

17 (2) “LOCAL EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY” MEANS:

18 (i) 1. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF A COUNTY; OR

19 2. IF A COUNTY DOES NOT HAVE A CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
20 OFFICER, THE COUNTY GOVERNING BODY; AND

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



**(II) IF A MUNICIPALITY OPERATES A TRANSIT SYSTEM:**

**1. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE MUNICIPALITY; OR**

**2. IF THE MUNICIPALITY DOES NOT HAVE A CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY.**

**(3) (I) "PUBLIC TRANSIT OPERATOR" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS:**

**1. EMPLOYED BY THE ADMINISTRATION, THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY, OR A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION; AND**

**2. ENGAGED IN PROVIDING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, INCLUDING:**

**A. BUS SERVICE;**

**B. TRAIN SERVICE;**

**C. LIGHT RAIL SERVICE; AND**

**D. SUBWAY SERVICE.**

**(II) "PUBLIC TRANSIT OPERATOR" INCLUDES A TRANSIT STATION MANAGER.**

**(B) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT ON ASSAULTS ON PUBLIC TRANSIT OPERATORS AS REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION.**

**(C) THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING 12 MONTHS:**

**(1) FOR EACH ASSAULT ON A PUBLIC TRANSIT OPERATOR:**

**(I) THE NATURE OF THE ASSAULT;**

**(II) THE MODE OF TRANSIT WHERE THE ASSAULT OCCURRED;**

**(III) THE LOCATION OF THE ASSAULT;**

1 (IV) WHETHER POLICE WERE INVOLVED IN RESPONDING TO THE  
2 ASSAULT; AND

3 (V) THE OUTCOME OF ANY INVESTIGATION INTO THE ASSAULT,  
4 INCLUDING ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN, IF THE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE;

5 (2) A COMPARISON OF THE AGGREGATE DATA COMPILED UNDER  
6 ITEM (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION WITH AT LEAST TWO OTHER STATES WITH SIMILAR  
7 TRANSIT SYSTEMS OR POPULATIONS; AND

8 (3) A REVIEW OF CURRENT TRANSIT INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES TO  
9 PREVENT AND MITIGATE ASSAULTS ON PUBLIC TRANSIT OPERATORS.

10 (D) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL  
11 SUBMIT THE REPORT UNDER THIS SECTION TO:

12 (1) EACH LOCAL EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY;

13 (2) THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR EACH COUNTY; AND

14 (3) THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN  
15 ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE:

16 (I) THE SENATE JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE;

17 (II) THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE;

18 (III) THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE; AND

19 (IV) THE HOUSE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION  
20 COMMITTEE.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the report due on December  
22 1, 2023, under § 7-714 of the Transportation Article as enacted by Section 1 of this Act  
23 shall include, in addition to the information required by § 7-714 of the Transportation  
24 Article as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, the following information:

25 (1) the data described in § 7-714(c)(1) of the Transportation Article as  
26 enacted by Section 1 of this Act for each of the immediately preceding 5 years;

27 (2) an evaluation of assault prevention and mitigation technology and  
28 policies for each transit system operated by a political subdivision;

1                   (3)    recommendations to improve the existing assault prevention and  
2 mitigation technology and policies for each transit system operated by a political  
3 subdivision; and

4                   (4)    an evaluation of the feasibility of establishing a statewide local transit  
5 safety officer to provide guidance to transit systems operated by political subdivisions on  
6 best practices to prevent and mitigate assaults on public transit operators.

7                   SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
8 1, 2023.