

SENATE BILL 70

R2

(PRE-FILED)

4lr0586
CF 4lr3422

By: **Senator McCray**

Requested: September 3, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 11, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Transportation – Change in Bus Service – Impacts Report**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Transit Administration, before announcing any
4 reduction or cancellation of an existing bus route or line, to compile a report on the
5 impacts of the proposed service reduction or cancellation; requiring the
6 Administration to publish the report on its website at least a certain number of days
7 before the required public hearing on the proposed service change; requiring the
8 Administration to distribute the report to certain officials and entities; and generally
9 relating to service reductions or cancellations of existing bus routes.

10 ~~BY adding to~~
11 ~~Article – Transportation~~
12 ~~Section 7–508~~
13 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
14 ~~(2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)~~

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Transportation
17 Section 7–715
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Article – Transportation

2 ~~7-508.~~ 7-715.

3 (A) The Administration shall develop transit equity analysis policies and
 4 guidelines, including thresholds for when a reduction or cancellation of a capital expansion
 5 project in the construction program of the Consolidated Transportation Program requires
 6 analysis.

7 ~~(A)~~ (B) (1) ~~IN THIS SECTION SUBSECTION, “ROUTE” MEANS A BUS~~
 8 ROUTE OR BUS LINE, OR THE CORRESPONDING PARATRANSIT SERVICE AREA.

9 ~~(B)~~ (2) BEFORE ANNOUNCING ANY SERVICE REDUCTION OR
 10 CANCELLATION OF AN EXISTING ROUTE, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL COMPILE A
 11 REPORT ON THE IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED SERVICE REDUCTION OR
 12 CANCELLATION THAT INCLUDES:

13 ~~(1)~~ (I) INFORMATION ON THE ROUTE, INCLUDING A DESCRIPTION
 14 OF:

15 ~~(I)~~ 1. THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF:

16 ~~1.~~ A. THE RIDERS ON THE ROUTE; AND

17 ~~2.~~ B. THE SERVICE AREA;

18 ~~(II)~~ 2. THE SCHOOLS IN THE SERVICE AREA;

19 ~~(III)~~ 3. THE TYPES OF BUSINESSES IN THE SERVICE AREA;

20 ~~(IV)~~ 4. THE MONTHLY RIDERSHIP ON THE ROUTE; AND

21 ~~(V)~~ 5. THE EFFECT THAT THE SERVICE REDUCTION OR
 22 CANCELLATION WOULD HAVE ON ~~THE~~:

23 A. THE COMMUTES OF RIDERS ON THE ROUTE;

24 B. THE CORRESPONDING PARATRANSIT SERVICE AREA;

25 AND

26 C. THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PARATRANSIT RIDERS
 27 IMPACTED;

1 ~~(2)~~ (II) A DESCRIPTION OF THE CONTENTS OF ANY MINUTES,
2 RECORDS, OR DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE SERVICE REDUCTION OR
3 CANCELLATION; AND

4 ~~(3)~~ (III) A BRIEF STATEMENT EXPLAINING THE REASON FOR THE
5 SERVICE REDUCTION OR CANCELLATION.

6 ~~(C)~~ (3) AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED
7 UNDER § 7-506 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL:

8 ~~(1)~~ (I) PUBLISH THE REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION'S
9 WEBSITE WITH A VISIBLE LINK IDENTIFYING THE IMPACTED ROUTE ON THE
10 PRIMARY PAGE; AND

11 ~~(2)~~ (II) DISTRIBUTE THE REPORT TO:

12 ~~(1)~~ 1. THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION; AND

13 ~~(H)~~ 2. IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE
14 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE:

15 ~~1.~~ A. THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

16 ~~2.~~ B. THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

17 ~~3.~~ C. THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE;

18 ~~4.~~ D. THE HOUSE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION
19 COMMITTEE; AND

20 ~~5.~~ E. EACH MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHOSE
21 DISTRICT WOULD BE IMPACTED BY THE PROPOSED SERVICE REDUCTION OR
22 CANCELLATION OF THE ROUTE.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2024.