

HB0517/303827/1

BY: Environment and Transportation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 517
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “**and Solomon**” and substitute “**, Solomon, and Spiegel**”; strike in their entirety lines 2 and 3 and substitute “**Workgroup on the Reorganization of the Maryland Transit Administration**”; strike beginning with “the” in line 4 down through “Authority” in line 9 and substitute “the Workgroup on the Reorganization of the Maryland Transit Administration to study reorganizing the Maryland Transit Administration; and generally relating to the Workgroup on the Reorganization of the Maryland Transit Administration”; strike in their entirety lines 10 through 15, inclusive; and in line 17, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”.

On page 6, in line 10, after the period insert “It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2026, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 through 6, strike beginning with “**Article**” in line 18 on page 1 down through the period in line 8 on page 6 and substitute:

“(a) There is a Workgroup on the Reorganization of the Maryland Transit Administration.

(b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

- (1) the Chair of the Appropriations Committee, or the Chair’s designee;
- (2) the Chair of the Environment and Transportation Committee, or the Chair’s designee;

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(3) the Chair of the Budget and Taxation Committee, or the Chair's designee;

(4) the Chair of the Budget and Taxation Committee's Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment Subcommittee, or the Chair's designee;

(5) the Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;

(6) the Maryland Transit Administrator, or the Administrator's designee;

(7) the Chair of the Baltimore Region Transit Commission, or the Chair's designee; and

(8) a representative of the local metropolitan planning organization for Baltimore City, designated by the organization.

(c) The Secretary of Transportation shall designate the chair of the Workgroup.

(d) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff for the Workgroup.

(e) A member of the Workgroup:

(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(f) The Workgroup shall:

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(1) study issues relating to a reorganization of the Maryland Department of Transportation and the Maryland Transit Administration, including:

(i) options for allowing the Administration to continue providing local Baltimore City transit services, including light rail, subway, and bus services and the creation of a new unit or reorganization of the Office of the Secretary to provide statewide transit services;

(ii) the current contractual obligations and agreements of the Administration and the process to transfer the obligations and agreements as part of a reorganization of the Department and the Administration; and

(iii) the governance changes to the Administration necessary to ensure that Baltimore City has the appropriate oversight and input into local Baltimore City transit service; and

(2) make recommendations regarding the reorganization of the Department and the Administration to ensure that:

(i) local Baltimore City transit service, including light rail, subway, and bus service, remain as a single unit within the Department and any other functions of the Administration are reorganized into a separate unit within the Department or the Office of the Secretary;

(ii) the workforce and personnel of the Administration necessary to operate local Baltimore City transit services remain within the Administration and the workforce and personnel of the Administration necessary to operate statewide transit services are reorganized into a separate unit within the Department or the Office of the Secretary; and

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(iii) the funding for local Baltimore City transit service is not reduced.

(g) On or before December 1, 2025, the Workgroup shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that:

(1) beginning with the fiscal year 2027 budget, all local Baltimore City transit services, including light rail, subway, and bus service, be included in the Maryland Transit Administration budget and all statewide transit service, including MARC rail service, the construction and operation of the Purple Line, and commuter bus service, be included in the Office of the Secretary's budget; and

(2) on or before December 1, 2025, the Department of Transportation shall submit draft legislation to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly providing for the reorganization of the Department to ensure that the Maryland Transit Administration provides local Baltimore City transit services, including light rail, subway, and bus service, and a separate unit within the Department provides statewide transit services including MARC rail service, the construction and operation of the Purple Line, and commuter bus service.”.