

HOUSE BILL 527

R2

5lr2106

By: **Delegates Charkoudian, Kaufman, Korman, Lehman, Moon, Pena–Melnyk, Shetty, Solomon, Taveras, Wilkins, ~~and Wolek~~ Wolek, Healey, R. Lewis, and J. Long**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 27, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Transit Administration – Purple Line – Free Ridership and**
3 **~~Advertising~~ Promotional Materials and Services**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Transit Administration to develop and
5 implement a program providing free ridership, for a certain period of time, on Purple
6 Line transit vehicles to individuals residing within a certain distance of the Purple
7 Line track and free ~~advertising space on Purple Line transit vehicles and at Purple~~
8 ~~Line transit stations~~ promotional materials and services to small businesses located
9 within a certain distance of a Purple Line track; and generally relating to the Purple
10 Line.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Transportation

13 Section 7–718

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Transportation**

19 **7–718.**

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 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "PURPLE LINE" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §
2 2-103.8 OF THIS ARTICLE.

3 (B) ~~THE~~ SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE
4 ADMINISTRATION SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM TO PROVIDE:

5 (1) FOR THE FIRST ~~3 MONTHS~~ MONTH AFTER TRANSIT SERVICE ON
6 THE PURPLE LINE BEGINS, RIDERSHIP ON PURPLE LINE TRANSIT VEHICLES AT NO
7 COST TO INDIVIDUALS RESIDING WITHIN A ONE-QUARTER-MILE RADIUS OF THE
8 PURPLE LINE TRACK; AND

9 (2) ~~ADVERTISING SPACE ON PURPLE LINE TRANSIT VEHICLES AND~~
10 ~~AT PURPLE LINE TRANSIT STATIONS~~ BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND UNTIL
11 3 MONTHS AFTER TRANSIT SERVICE ON THE PURPLE LINE BEGINS, PROMOTIONAL
12 MATERIALS AND SERVICES AT NO COST TO SMALL BUSINESSES, AS DEFINED IN §
13 2-1505.2 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, LOCATED WITHIN A
14 ONE-QUARTER-MILE RADIUS OF THE PURPLE LINE TRACK.

15 (C) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL USE INTERNAL RESOURCES IT HAS
16 AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING:

17 (1) WEBSITES MAINTAINED BY THE ADMINISTRATION; AND

18 (2) THE PRINTING AND DESIGN SERVICES OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

19 (D) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION MAY BE CONSTRUED TO REQUIRE THE
20 ADMINISTRATION TO PROCURE PRIVATE ADVERTISING OR MARKETING SERVICES.

21 (E) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT
22 THIS SECTION.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2025.