

Chapter 494

(House Bill 527)

AN ACT concerning

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

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

BY adding to

Article – Transportation  
Section 7-718  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

**Article – Transportation**

**7-718.**

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

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

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

**(2) ~~ADVERTISING SPACE ON PURPLE LINE TRANSIT VEHICLES AND AT PURPLE LINE TRANSIT STATIONS~~ BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND UNTIL 3 MONTHS AFTER TRANSIT SERVICE ON THE PURPLE LINE BEGINS, PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS AND SERVICES AT NO COST TO SMALL BUSINESSES, AS DEFINED IN §**

**2-1505.2 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, LOCATED WITHIN A ONE-QUARTER-MILE RADIUS OF THE PURPLE LINE TRACK.**

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

**(1) WEBSITES MAINTAINED BY THE ADMINISTRATION; AND**

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

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

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

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

**Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2025.**