



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB3775

Introduced 2/22/2021, by Rep. Aaron M. Ortiz

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

70 ILCS 3605/30 from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 330
70 ILCS 3610/8.6
70 ILCS 3615/3A.15
70 ILCS 3615/3B.14

Amends the Metropolitan Transit Authority Act, the Local Mass Transit District Act, and the Regional Transportation Authority Act. Provides that the various transportation authorities shall provide free transportation during general election days, under such conditions as shall be prescribed by the respective authorities.

LRB102 15183 RAM 20538 b

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Metropolitan Transit Authority Act is
5 amended by changing Section 30 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 3605/30) (from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 330)

7 Sec. 30. The Board shall make all rules and regulations
8 governing the operation of the transportation system, shall
9 determine all routings and change the same whenever it is
10 deemed advisable by the Board, subject to the provisions of
11 any ordinance granting rights to the Authority. Except as
12 provided in Sections 2.04 and 4.11(b)(5) of the Regional
13 Transportation Authority Act, the Board shall fix rates, fares
14 and charges for transportation, provided that they shall be at
15 all times sufficient in the aggregate to provide revenues (a)
16 for the payment of the interest on and principal of all bonds,
17 certificates and other obligations payable from said revenues
18 and to meet all other charges upon such revenues as provided by
19 any trust agreement executed by the Authority in connection
20 with the issuance of bonds or certificates under this Act, (b)
21 for the payment of all operating costs including all charges
22 which may be incurred pursuant to Sections 29 and 39 of this
23 Act and all other costs and charges incidental to the

1 operation of the transportation system, (c) for the payment of
2 all costs and charges incurred pursuant to Sections 37 and 38
3 of this Act and any other costs and charges for acquisition,
4 installation, construction or for replacement or
5 reconstruction of equipment, structures or rights of way not
6 financed through issuance of bonds or certificates under
7 Section 12 of this Act, and (d) for any compensation required
8 to be paid to any municipality for the use of streets, subways
9 and other public ways. The Board may provide free
10 transportation within any municipality in and by which they
11 are employed for firemen and public health nurses, when in
12 uniform, and policemen when in uniform or, when not in
13 uniform, upon presentation of identification as policemen, and
14 shall provide free transportation to sworn law enforcement
15 personnel of the Cook County Sheriff's Department when in
16 uniform or, when not in uniform, upon presentation of
17 identification as sworn law enforcement personnel of the Cook
18 County Sheriff's Department, and may provide free
19 transportation for employees of the Authority when in uniform
20 or upon presentation of identification as such employees, and
21 may enter into agreements with the United States Post Office
22 Department for the transportation of mail, and the payment of
23 compensation to the Authority in lieu of fares for the
24 transportation of letter carriers, when in uniform at all
25 times.

26 The Board may also provide free transportation, or

1 transportation at reduced fares, to all or designated classes
2 of pupils in attendance at public schools of school districts
3 within or partly within the territorial limits of the
4 Authority, or in attendance at private schools offering grades
5 of instruction comparable to those offered in public schools,
6 under such conditions as shall be prescribed by the Board,
7 and, if otherwise authorized by law, the Board may contract
8 with public school boards and representatives of private
9 schools, for reimbursement of pupil transportation costs from
10 public funds.

11 The Board shall provide free transportation to all
12 residents within the territorial limits of the Authority
13 during general election days, under such conditions as shall
14 be prescribed by the Board.

15 (Source: P.A. 97-85, eff. 7-7-11.)

16 Section 10. The Local Mass Transit District Act is amended
17 by changing Section 8.6 as follows:

18 (70 ILCS 3610/8.6)

19 Sec. 8.6. Free services; eligibility.

20 (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
21 60 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
22 the 95th General Assembly and until subsection (b) is
23 implemented, any fixed route public transportation services
24 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts

1 of, every District shall be provided without charge to all
2 senior citizens of the District aged 65 and older, under such
3 conditions as shall be prescribed by the District.

4 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
5 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act
6 of the 96th General Assembly, any fixed route public
7 transportation services provided by, or under grant or
8 purchase of service contracts of, every District shall be
9 provided without charge to senior citizens aged 65 and older
10 who meet the income eligibility limitation set forth in
11 subsection (a-5) of Section 4 of the Senior Citizens and
12 Persons with Disabilities Property Tax Relief Act, under such
13 conditions as shall be prescribed by the District. The
14 Department on Aging shall furnish all information reasonably
15 necessary to determine eligibility, including updated lists of
16 individuals who are eligible for services without charge under
17 this Section. Nothing in this Section shall relieve the
18 District from providing reduced fares as may be required by
19 federal law.

20 (c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any fixed
21 route public bus transportation services provided by, or under
22 grant or purchase of services contracts of, every District
23 shall be provided without charge to all District residents
24 during general election days, under such conditions as shall
25 be prescribed by the District.

26 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)

1 Section 15. The Regional Transportation Authority Act is
2 amended by changing Sections 3A.15 and 3B.14 as follows:

3 (70 ILCS 3615/3A.15)

4 Sec. 3A.15. Free services; eligibility.

5 (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
6 60 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
7 the 95th General Assembly and until subsection (b) is
8 implemented, any fixed route public transportation services
9 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts
10 of, the Suburban Bus Board shall be provided without charge to
11 all senior citizens of the Metropolitan Region aged 65 and
12 older, under such conditions as shall be prescribed by the
13 Suburban Bus Board.

14 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
15 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act
16 of the 96th General Assembly, any fixed route public
17 transportation services provided by, or under grant or
18 purchase of service contracts of, the Suburban Bus Board shall
19 be provided without charge to senior citizens aged 65 and
20 older who meet the income eligibility limitation set forth in
21 subsection (a-5) of Section 4 of the Senior Citizens and
22 Persons with Disabilities Property Tax Relief Act, under such
23 conditions as shall be prescribed by the Suburban Bus Board.
24 The Department on Aging shall furnish all information

1 reasonably necessary to determine eligibility, including
2 updated lists of individuals who are eligible for services
3 without charge under this Section. Nothing in this Section
4 shall relieve the Suburban Bus Board from providing reduced
5 fares as may be required by federal law.

6 (c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any fixed
7 route public bus transportation services provided by, or under
8 grant or purchase of services contracts of, the Suburban Bus
9 Board shall be provided without charge to all residents of the
10 Metropolitan Region during general election days, under such
11 conditions as shall be prescribed by the Board.

12 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)

13 (70 ILCS 3615/3B.14)

14 Sec. 3B.14. Free services; eligibility.

15 (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
16 60 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
17 the 95th General Assembly and until subsection (b) is
18 implemented, any fixed route public transportation services
19 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts
20 of, the Commuter Rail Board shall be provided without charge
21 to all senior citizens of the Metropolitan Region aged 65 and
22 older, under such conditions as shall be prescribed by the
23 Commuter Rail Board.

24 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
25 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act

1 of the 96th General Assembly, any fixed route public
2 transportation services provided by, or under grant or
3 purchase of service contracts of, the Commuter Rail Board
4 shall be provided without charge to senior citizens aged 65
5 and older who meet the income eligibility limitation set forth
6 in subsection (a-5) of Section 4 of the Senior Citizens and
7 Persons with Disabilities Property Tax Relief Act, under such
8 conditions as shall be prescribed by the Commuter Rail Board.
9 The Department on Aging shall furnish all information
10 reasonably necessary to determine eligibility, including
11 updated lists of individuals who are eligible for services
12 without charge under this Section. Nothing in this Section
13 shall relieve the Commuter Rail Board from providing reduced
14 fares as may be required by federal law.

15 (c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any fixed
16 route public commuter rail transportation services provided
17 by, or under grant or purchase of services contracts of, the
18 Commuter Rail Board shall be provided without charge to all
19 residents of the Metropolitan Region during general election
20 days, under such conditions as shall be prescribed by the
21 Board.

22 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)