



H.B. 540

127th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Fende and Schindel, Brady, Brown, Chandler, Evans, Harwood, Letson, Newcomb, Sears, Setzer, Ujvagi

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates the 20-member Public Transit Funding Task Force.
- Requires the Task Force to review public transportation funding in this state with the goal of improving the efficiency and productivity of transportation services through the coordination of transportation services and funding for the long-term stability of Ohio's public transportation system.
- Requires the Task Force to study the adequacy of Ohio's public transportation funding, the sources and potential sources for public transportation funding, and the need for a stable, dedicated source of funding for public transportation in Ohio.
- Requires the Task Force to evaluate the state funds being expended by state agencies that provide transportation services.
- Requires the Task Force to make recommendations regarding appropriate levels of funding and sources of funding and to issue a report of its findings to the General Assembly and the Governor.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Composition and duties of the Public Transit Funding Task Force

The bill creates the 20-member Public Transit Funding Task Force and requires the Task Force to review public transportation funding in Ohio with the goal of improving the efficiency and productivity of transportation services in Ohio through the coordination of transportation services and funding for the long-term stability of Ohio's public transportation system. The Task Force also is

required to study the adequacy of Ohio's public transportation funding, the sources and potential sources for public transportation funding, and the need for a stable, dedicated source of funding for public transportation in Ohio. Finally, the Task Force is required to evaluate the state funds being expended by state agencies that provide transportation services.

The bill requires the Task Force to make recommendations regarding appropriate levels of funding and sources of funding and to issue a report of its findings to the General Assembly and the Governor within one year after the Governor signs the bill into law. The Task Force ceases to exist upon issuance of its report.

Members of the Task Force

Under the bill, the following persons comprise the Task Force membership:

(1) Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, not more than two of whom may be from the same political party as the Speaker;

(2) Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, not more than two of whom may be from the same political party as the President;

(3) The Director of Transportation or the Director's designee;

(4) The Director of Budget and Management or the Director's designee;

(5) The Director of Job and Family Services or the Director's designee;

(6) The person appointed by the Director of Job and Family Services to serve as the state's Medicaid Director, or that person's designee;

(7) The Director of Aging or the Director's designee;

(8) The Director of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities or the Director's designee;

(9) One person appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to represent the general public;

(10) One person appointed by the President of the Senate to represent the general public;

(11) The President of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce or the President's designee;

(12) A representative of an older adults advocacy group designated by the Director of Aging;

(13) A representative of a disability advocacy group designated by the Director of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities;

(14) Three members jointly appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate from lists of individuals recommended by the Ohio Public Transit Association, one of whom must represent a large urban public transit system, one of whom must represent a small urban public transit system, and one of whom must represent a rural public transit system. The Ohio Public Transit Association must include three public transit professionals from each of those three types of public transit systems in its recommendations.

From their appointees, the Speaker and the President are required to designate a representative and a senator, respectively, to serve as Task Force co-chairpersons, who are required to call the first Task Force meeting within 30 days after the last member is appointed. The Legislative Service Commission is required to provide staff services for the Task Force.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	04-22-08

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