

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

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2000 Regular Session  
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By: **Senator Green**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2000

Assigned to: Finance

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Department of Transportation - Mass Transit - Study of Discounted Fares**

3 FOR the purpose of requesting the Maryland Department of Transportation to  
4 conduct a certain study of the various fare discounts that are available to  
5 students and other mass transit riders in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore City  
6 and to evaluate the costs and feasibility of providing such discounts to mass  
7 transit riders in the Washington Metropolitan area; requiring the Department  
8 to report to the General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally  
9 relating to mass transit fares.

10 WHEREAS, Mass transit systems provide energy-efficient transportation,  
11 contribute to a reduction in traffic congestion on the highways, and promote clean air,  
12 and it is, therefore, in the best interest of the State to encourage the widespread use  
13 of mass transit; and

14 WHEREAS, Various programs currently provide discounted fares to students  
15 and other "special-need" individuals who use mass transit in Washington, D.C. and  
16 Baltimore City; and

17 WHEREAS, Fares charged for the use of mass transit should be reasonably  
18 equitable and designed to encourage, rather than discourage, mass transit use; and

19 WHEREAS, There currently exists a lack of consistency with respect to the fares  
20 charged and the discounts available to students and others who seek to use mass  
21 transit facilities in different regions of the State; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the  
23 Maryland Department of Transportation is requested to conduct a study of the  
24 various fare discounts that are available to mass transit riders in Washington, D.C.  
25 and Baltimore City and to evaluate the costs and feasibility of providing such  
26 discounts to mass transit riders throughout the Washington Metropolitan region; and  
27 be it further

28 RESOLVED, That, as part of the study, the Department of Transportation shall  
29 consider:

1           (1)       Options for providing fare discounts to all student users of mass  
2 transit services in the Washington Metropolitan area, including riders of MARC  
3 trains, Metrobus and Metrorail, Ride-On buses in Montgomery County, "The Bus" in  
4 Prince George's County, and CTC buses serving the City of Laurel and surrounding  
5 areas;

6           (2)       Expanding into other areas of the State programs such as the Mass  
7 Transit Administration's College 33 Pass program, which currently provides  
8 discounted fares only to Baltimore area college students; and

9           (3)       The feasibility of providing discounted fares for all mass transit  
10 riders during off-peak hours and for student riders at all times, including weekends  
11 and evenings; and be it further

12       RESOLVED, That, on or before December 15, 2000, the Department of  
13 Transportation shall submit a report to the General Assembly, in accordance with §  
14 2-1246 of the State Government Article on the results of the study; and be it further

15       RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
16 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;  
17 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the  
18 Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; the Honorable  
19 John D. Porcari, Secretary of Transportation, P.O. Box 8755, Baltimore/Washington  
20 International Airport, 21240-0755; and Ronald L. Freeland, Administrator, Mass  
21 Transit Administration, 6 St. Paul Street, Second Floor, Baltimore, Maryland,  
22 21202-1614.