
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5477

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Long, Shin, McAuliffe, Swecker, Horn and Costa)

READ FIRST TIME 02/26/01.

1 AN ACT Relating to public transportation systems; and amending RCW
2 36.57A.110 and 36.57A.130.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.57A.110 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 s 21 are each
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (1) The public transportation benefit area shall have and exercise
7 all rights with respect to the construction, acquisition, maintenance,
8 operation, extension, alteration, repair, control and management of
9 passenger transportation which any component city (~~shall have~~) has
10 been previously empowered to exercise, and such powers shall not
11 thereafter be exercised by such component cities without the consent of
12 the public transportation benefit area (~~PROVIDED, That any~~). A
13 city owning and operating a public transportation system on July 1,
14 1975, may continue to operate such system within such city until such
15 system (~~shall have~~) has been acquired by the public transportation
16 benefit area, and a public transportation benefit area may not acquire
17 such system without the consent of the city council of such city except
18 as provided by subsection (2) of this section.

1 (2) In a county with a population over one hundred fifty thousand
2 where a public transportation benefit area and a city both operate a
3 public transportation system, the county shall submit a ballot
4 proposition to the voters of the city on the question of whether the
5 public transportation benefit area shall acquire the public
6 transportation system owned by the city. The ballot proposition must
7 state that approval of the ballot proposition constitutes agreement
8 that the city is subject to all taxes and other liabilities and
9 obligations of the public transportation benefit area. The vote must
10 take place before January 1, 2002, and a simple majority authorizes
11 acquisition. Upon a favorable vote, the city is included within the
12 boundaries of the transportation benefit area and is subject to all
13 taxes and other liabilities and obligations of the public
14 transportation benefit area. Public transportation facilities and
15 properties that are owned by the city become the property of the public
16 transportation benefit area. The public transportation benefit area
17 shall compensate the city for the fair market value of the facilities
18 and properties acquired by the public transportation benefit area.

19 (3) Upon a favorable vote in the election required by subsection
20 (2) of this section, the representatives of the public transportation
21 benefit area's component cities and counties shall meet within ninety
22 days to review and change the composition of the governing body, if the
23 change is deemed appropriate.

24 (4) The requirements of RCW 36.57A.140 do not apply to the
25 acquisition of a public transportation system under subsection (2) of
26 this section.

27 (5) If the ballot proposition fails, the city shall pay the public
28 transportation benefit area for services rendered as provided for in
29 RCW 36.57A.130.

30 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.57A.130 and 1983 c 151 s 1 are each amended to read
31 as follows:

32 (1) The treasurer of the county in which a public transportation
33 benefit area authority is located shall be ex officio treasurer of the
34 authority. In the case of a multicounty public transportation benefit
35 area the county treasurer of the largest component county, by
36 population, shall be the treasurer of the authority. However, the
37 authority, by resolution, and upon the approval of the county
38 treasurer, may designate some other person having experience in

1 financial or fiscal matters as treasurer of the authority. Such a
2 treasurer shall possess all of the powers, responsibilities, and duties
3 the county treasurer possesses for a public transportation benefit area
4 authority related to investing surplus authority funds. The authority
5 may (and if the treasurer is not a county treasurer, it shall) require
6 a bond with a surety company authorized to do business in the state of
7 Washington in an amount and under the terms and conditions the
8 authority, by resolution, from time to time finds will protect the
9 authority against loss. The premium on any such bond shall be paid by
10 the authority.

11 (2) All authority funds shall be paid to the treasurer and shall be
12 disbursed by the treasurer only on warrants issued by the county
13 auditor, upon orders or vouchers approved by the authority. However,
14 the authority may, by resolution, designate some person having
15 experience in financial or fiscal matters, other than the county
16 auditor, as the auditor of the authority. Such an auditor shall
17 possess all of the powers, responsibilities, and duties that the county
18 auditor possesses for a public transportation benefit area authority
19 related to creating and maintaining funds, issuing warrants, and
20 maintaining a record of receipts and disbursements.

21 (~~The treasurer shall establish a "transportation fund," into which~~
22 ~~shall be paid~~)) (3) All authority funds must be paid into the
23 multimodal fund, and the treasurer shall maintain such special accounts
24 as may be created by the authority into which shall be placed all money
25 as the authority may, by resolution, direct.

26 (4) If the treasurer of the authority is a treasurer of the county,
27 all authority funds shall be deposited with the county depository under
28 the same restrictions, contracts, and security as provided for county
29 depositories. If the treasurer of the authority is some other person,
30 all funds shall be deposited in such bank or banks authorized to do
31 business in this state that have qualified for insured deposits under
32 any federal deposit insurance act as the authority, by resolution,
33 shall designate.

34 (5) An authority may provide and require a reasonable bond of any
35 other person handling moneys or securities of the authority, but the
36 authority shall pay the premium on the bond.

37 (6) The county or counties and each city or town which is included
38 in the authority shall contribute such sums towards the expense for
39 maintaining and operating the public transportation system as shall be

1 agreed upon between them. After January 1, 2002, in a county where a
2 public transportation benefit area and a city both operate a public
3 transportation system, the city shall annually pay the public
4 transportation benefit area:

5 (a) The average subsidy per passenger of the public transportation
6 benefit area multiplied by the number of unlinked passenger trips made
7 by that city's residents on the public transportation benefit area
8 transportation system; plus

9 (b) The depreciation expenses of the public transportation benefit
10 area, divided by the combined population of the public transportation
11 benefit area and the city, multiplied by the population of the city.

12 (7) The public transportation benefit area shall determine the
13 amount of the subsidy in subsection (6) of this section, by adding the
14 total operating expenses for all modes of transportation in the public
15 transportation benefit area minus the fare revenues, divided by the
16 total number of unlinked trips for all modes, as determined by the most
17 recent National Database figures for that system. The number of
18 unlinked passenger trips made by that city's residents will be
19 determined by the most recent on-board rider surveys performed
20 biennially by an independent consultant. The public transportation
21 benefit area and the city shall equally share the cost of the survey.

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