
SENATE BILL 5477

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen, Long, Shin, McAuliffe, Swecker, Horn and Costa

Read first time 01/24/2001. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

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

16 (3) If the ballot proposition fails, the city shall pay the public
17 transportation benefit area for services rendered as provided for in
18 RCW 36.57A.130.

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

21 (1) The treasurer of the county in which a public transportation
22 benefit area authority is located shall be ex officio treasurer of the
23 authority. In the case of a multicounty public transportation benefit
24 area the county treasurer of the largest component county, by
25 population, shall be the treasurer of the authority. However, the
26 authority, by resolution, and upon the approval of the county
27 treasurer, may designate some other person having experience in
28 financial or fiscal matters as treasurer of the authority. Such a
29 treasurer shall possess all of the powers, responsibilities, and duties
30 the county treasurer possesses for a public transportation benefit area
31 authority related to investing surplus authority funds. The authority
32 may (and if the treasurer is not a county treasurer, it shall) require
33 a bond with a surety company authorized to do business in the state of
34 Washington in an amount and under the terms and conditions the
35 authority, by resolution, from time to time finds will protect the
36 authority against loss. The premium on any such bond shall be paid by
37 the authority.

1 (2) All authority funds shall be paid to the treasurer and shall be
2 disbursed by the treasurer only on warrants issued by the county
3 auditor, upon orders or vouchers approved by the authority. However,
4 the authority may, by resolution, designate some person having
5 experience in financial or fiscal matters, other than the county
6 auditor, as the auditor of the authority. Such an auditor shall
7 possess all of the powers, responsibilities, and duties that the county
8 auditor possesses for a public transportation benefit area authority
9 related to creating and maintaining funds, issuing warrants, and
10 maintaining a record of receipts and disbursements.

11 (~~The treasurer shall establish a "transportation fund," into which~~
12 ~~shall be paid~~) (3) All authority funds must be paid into the
13 multimodal fund, and the treasurer shall maintain such special accounts
14 as may be created by the authority into which shall be placed all money
15 as the authority may, by resolution, direct.

16 (4) If the treasurer of the authority is a treasurer of the county,
17 all authority funds shall be deposited with the county depository under
18 the same restrictions, contracts, and security as provided for county
19 depositories. If the treasurer of the authority is some other person,
20 all funds shall be deposited in such bank or banks authorized to do
21 business in this state that have qualified for insured deposits under
22 any federal deposit insurance act as the authority, by resolution,
23 shall designate.

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

27 (6) The county or counties and each city or town which is included
28 in the authority shall contribute such sums towards the expense for
29 maintaining and operating the public transportation system as shall be
30 agreed upon between them. After January 1, 2002, in a county where a
31 public transportation benefit area and a city both operate a public
32 transportation system, the city shall annually pay the public
33 transportation benefit area:

34 (a) The average subsidy per passenger of the public transportation
35 benefit area multiplied by the number of unlinked passenger trips made
36 by that city's residents on the public transportation benefit area
37 transportation system; plus

1 (b) The depreciation expenses of the public transportation benefit
2 area, divided by the combined population of the public transportation
3 benefit area and the city, multiplied by the population of the city.
4 (7) The public transportation benefit area shall determine the
5 amount of the subsidy in subsection (6) of this section, by adding the
6 total operating expenses for all modes of transportation in the public
7 transportation benefit area minus the fare revenues, divided by the
8 total number of unlinked trips for all modes, as determined by the most
9 recent National Database figures for that system. The number of
10 unlinked passenger trips made by that city's residents will be
11 determined by the most recent on-board rider surveys performed
12 biennially by an independent consultant. The public transportation
13 benefit area and the city shall equally share the cost of the survey.

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