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GOVERNOR EHRLICH ANNOUNCES AN EASY TRIP FOR OCEAN CITY TRAVELERS

State Loans Six MTA Buses to Ocean City for Busy Summer Season

ANNAPOLIS, May 28, 2004 - Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. today announced the State is loaning Ocean City six oversized buses from the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) for the resort town to use in its busy summer season. The buses are articulated buses, "accordian style," that are larger than regular MTA buses and seat about 60 passengers.

"Ocean City is one of Maryland's favorite vacation spots," said Governor Ehrlich. "We have worked hard to make it easier to travel to the beach by opening a dedicated EZPass lane at the Bay Bridge and encouraging people to travel off hours. Today, I am taking that effort one step further and giving vacationers an easy transit option once they get to the beach. With gas prices up, this \$2 daily pass will help make your vacation dollars last longer. Enjoy your trip and leave the driving to us!"

The State delivered the last of the six MTA buses to Ocean City on May 25, just in time for the Memorial Day crowds. For just \$2, passengers can take unlimited daily bus rides from the Inlet to the Delaware State Line.

"I want to thank Governor Ehrlich and the State of Maryland for loaning us these buses to make visitors' vacations easier," said Ocean City Mayor Jim Mathias. "This is the best buy in town. For \$2, people can enjoy stress-free travel all day long to visit shopping, restaurants, and entertainment."

Ocean City visitors are encouraged to park at the Park and Ride outside of town and take the bus into town. Starting Memorial Day weekend and throughout the summer season, buses will run approximately every 10 minutes. Buses run 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Bus stops are located on every other block along Coastal Highway, Philadelphia Avenue, and Baltimore Avenue.

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