

improvement of essential bus, railroad and other methods of public mass transportation services and the complete and efficient use of all available means of such transportation.

(g) Since the existing public mass transportation facilities in this area have been provided by private enterprise, it is the primary objective of the General Assembly to improve such facilities and strengthen the workings of the private operators. However, the General Assembly declares that the private operators in the area have a public responsibility to provide, maintain and properly operate public mass transportation facilities suited to the needs of the public which they serve. The General Assembly recognizes its own obligation to provide for adequate mass transportation when private operation cannot or does not do so.

(h) Therefore, it is declared that the purpose of the General Assembly in enacting this Article is to create a means or method to aid, assist and encourage the extension and improvement of privately owned public mass transportation facilities within this area to the end that an efficient, rapid and coordinated mass transportation system may be established, maintained and operated within the area for the use of the public and for furnishing such proper service as may be needed for the rapid transportation of the inhabitants of the area.

(i) It is further declared to be the purpose of the General Assembly to establish a means whereby an integrated publicly owned transit system can be established and operated should it become necessary to do so.

2. Definitions.

(a) As used in this Article the following words and terms have the following meanings, unless the context shall indicate another or different meaning or intent:

(b) The word "Area" means all of the territory located within the boundary lines of Baltimore City, Baltimore County (with the exception of the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Tenth Election Districts), and the Third and Fifth Election Districts of Anne Arundel County, and such additional political subdivisions of the State or the Counties as may be provided by law, from time to time hereafter.

or

(b) The word "Area" means all of the territory located within the boundary lines of Baltimore City and Baltimore County with the exception of the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Tenth Election Districts of Baltimore County, and such additional political subdivisions of the State or the Counties as may be provided by law, from time to time hereafter.

(c) The word "Authority" means the Metropolitan Transit Authority created under the provision of this Article, or if said Authority shall be abolished, the board, body or commission succeeding to the principal functions thereof or to which the powers given by this Article to the Authority shall be given by law.

(d) The word "City" means the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore.