

at least once in each year by certified public accountants, and the cost thereof shall be treated as an operating expense.

13. (A) EVERY MASS TRANSIT OR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, THE SUPERVISING, JURISDICTION AND CONTROL OVER WHICH IS VESTED IN THE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY, SHALL PAY A SEAT TAX FEE TO THE AUTHORITY, THE SAME TO BE USED BY THE AUTHORITY IN DEFRAYING ITS NECESSARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES. THE PAYMENT OF SUCH A SEAT TAX FEE SHALL BE IN LIEU OF ANY SUCH FEE HERETOFORE LEVIED, PAID OR PAYABLE, BY SUCH MASS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM OR COMPANIES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND. THE ANNUAL SEAT TAX FEE PAYABLE UNDER THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE AT THE RATE OF \$4.00 PER SEAT, PER VEHICLE OF ANY TYPE USED BY A MASS TRANSIT OR TRANSPORTATION COMPANY FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF PASSENGERS. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT IN ANY CASE WHERE A BUS OR BUSES ARE USED OVER A REGULAR ROUTE WHERE THE MAJOR PORTION OF THE PASSENGER TRAFFIC BEGINS AND ENDS WITHIN THE METROPOLITAN AREA AND SUCH REGULAR ROUTE EXTENDS BEYOND THE AREA DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 2 (B) OF THIS ARTICLE, THE TRANSPORTATION COMPANY OPERATING SUCH BUS OR BUSES SHALL PAY ONLY THE USUAL SEAT TAX PAYABLE UNDER THIS SECTION AND SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE FEE SET FORTH IN SECTION 184 (A) OF ARTICLE 56; AND FURTHER THAT THE PAYMENT OF THIS ANNUAL SEAT TAX PAYABLE UNDER THIS ARTICLE SHALL CARRY WITH IT, FOR EACH VEHICLE SO LICENSED, THE RIGHT TO OPERATE SUCH VEHICLE FOR CHARTER PURPOSES, WITHOUT ADDITIONAL FEE. THE ANNUAL SEAT TAX FEE SHALL BE PAID IN SEMIANNUAL INSTALLMENTS IN THE MONTHS OF JUNE AND DECEMBER OF EACH YEAR FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, BEGINNING JULY 1, 1961.

(B) THERE IS HEREBY IMPOSED UPON EVERY LEGAL ENTITY OPERATING OR MAINTAINING A MASS TRANSIT OR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA, WHOSE GROSS RECEIPTS AMOUNT TO \$10,000. OR MORE, AN ANNUAL FEE OR CHARGE IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO ONE-TWENTIETH OF ONE PER CENT (1/20%) OF THE GROSS RECEIPTS DERIVED FROM THE MASS TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS WITHIN THE METROPOLITAN AREA OF ANY SUCH LEGAL ENTITY FOR THE PRECEDING YEAR. THE FEE OR CHARGE SHALL BE PAYABLE ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1ST IN ANY YEAR, WITH THE COMPUTATION BASED UPON THE GROSS RECEIPTS OF THE PRECEDING YEAR. SUCH FEE OR CHARGE SHALL BE PAID DIRECTLY TO THE AUTHORITY AND SHALL BE USED BY IT FOR GENERAL PURPOSES. ANY CARRIER REQUIRED TO PAY THE ANNUAL FEE HEREUNDER SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE ANNUAL FEE OR CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND.

(C) THE AUTHORITY MAY BORROW FROM THE STATE, THE CITY, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY AND BALTIMORE