

~~Article—Tax—General~~

~~Section 2—1303~~

~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

~~(2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)~~

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~

~~Article—Transportation~~

~~Section 3—215(b) and 3—216~~

~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

~~(2001 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)~~

~~BY adding to~~

~~Article—Transportation~~

~~Section 3—401 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 4. Mass Transit Account”~~

~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

~~(2001 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)~~

#### Preamble

WHEREAS, The Maryland Department of Transportation is studying the future transit needs of the Baltimore and Washington regions and several major transit projects are under consideration, including the Red and Green lines in Baltimore City, the Bi-County Transitway, the Corridor Cities Transitway, and the expansion of the Washington Metro to BWI-Thurgood Marshall Airport; and

WHEREAS, In January 2005, a Blue Ribbon Panel identified an average annual shortfall of \$300 million in the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority’s (WMATA) capital funding needs through 2015. In response, legislation was introduced in Congress to provide a substantial federal commitment to funding WMATA, contingent on participating state and local governments earmarking funds from dedicated funding sources for the same purpose; and

WHEREAS, Maryland supports efforts to obtain additional federal assistance for the operations, maintenance and expansion of WMATA, given the federal government’s reliance on the transit system; and

WHEREAS, Maryland has and will continue to meet its obligation to fund its share of WMATA’s operating and capital needs, as evidenced by the State’s participation in Metro Matters; and

WHEREAS, Maryland has statewide transit funding needs that should be addressed using a statewide approach that is equitable for all regions; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) The Maryland Department of Transportation shall provide an analysis of operating and capital funding needs for transit in the State over a twenty year horizon. The analysis shall include a comprehensive, financially unconstrained