

## SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(1) There shall be established a Transit Policy Panel consisting of the following 18 members:

(i) Six members of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(ii) Six members of the Senate of Maryland appointed by the President of the Senate; and

(iii) Six members appointed by the Governor.

(2) The Governor shall appoint the chairman of the Panel.

(3) The Panel shall study and make recommendations on:

(i) Similarities and differences in service policies and demographic needs for the transit services, including locally operated bus services as well as rail services, in both the Baltimore regional area and the Washington regional area;

(ii) Viability and feasibility of parity treatment between the two regional transit areas, as recommended by the recent Commission on Transportation Investment; and

(iii) Projections on necessary services and costs, including funding requirements and farebox recovery requirements, to implement the recent Transit Advisory Panel recommendations, including the short-term and long-term impact on the State Transportation Trust Fund.

(4) The Maryland Department of Transportation shall provide staff support for the Panel.

(4) (5) The Panel shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly by December 1, 2000.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Transportation shall submit in the Department's annual budget request separate farebox recovery projections for the fiscal year covered by the budget request for the Mass Transit Administration's and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's bus, light rail, and metro services.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2000. It shall remain effective for a period of 6 months and, at the end of December 31, 2000, with no further action required by the General Assembly, Section 2 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION ~~3~~ 4 ~~5~~, AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2000. It shall remain effective for a period of 4 years and, at the end of June 30, 2004, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.