

area under certain circumstances; requiring a Program participant to expend a certain matching fund; establishing certain limitations on the number and amount of grants that may be awarded under the Program; authorizing a Program participant to charge a certain fee; requiring the Administration to consult with certain parties persons regarding the awarding of grants and the adoption of regulations under this Act; ~~authorizing grant participants to provide~~ establishing that this Act does not prohibit a Program participant from providing certain services; requiring the Administration to adopt certain regulations; requiring Program participants to submit certain reports to the Administration; defining certain terms; requiring the Administration to submit certain evaluations to the General Assembly; providing for a delayed effective date; and generally relating to the Maryland Senior Rides Demonstration Program.

BY adding to

Article – Transportation

Section 7-1001 through 7-1005, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 10. Maryland Senior Rides Demonstration Program”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

#### Preamble

WHEREAS, Senior citizens in Maryland face unique challenges in accessing safe, available, and affordable transportation for a variety of medical, routine, social, and personal needs; and

WHEREAS, The federal, State, and local resources available to subsidize transportation for seniors, and the existing transportation services offered by State, local, and private providers, do not adequately meet the needs of seniors for door-to-door, nonfixed-route, and on-demand transportation options; and

WHEREAS, The transportation challenges faced by seniors vary significantly across the State depending on whether they live in urban, suburban, or rural settings; and

WHEREAS, Senior citizens make up more than 15% of Maryland’s population and, by 2020, that percentage is expected to grow to 23%; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

#### Article – Transportation

##### SUBTITLE 10. MARYLAND SENIOR RIDES DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

7-1001.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.