

A bill for an act

relating to public transit; requiring Metropolitan Council and commissioner of transportation to provide free transit passes for unemployed individuals seeking employment; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, sections 174.23, by adding a subdivision; 473.408, by adding a subdivision.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 174.23, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 10. **Assistance to unemployed transit users.** Notwithstanding subdivision 2, the commissioner of transportation shall provide grants to operators of regular-route transit systems to furnish regular-route transit passes at no cost for distribution by workforce development centers to unemployed individuals to enable them to access job training and counseling programs and to conduct job search activities.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 473.408, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 10. **Assistance to unemployed transit users.** The council shall provide metro transit passes at no cost for distribution by workforce development centers to unemployed individuals to enable them to access job training and counseling programs and to conduct job search activities.

Sec. 3. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

(a) \$..... in fiscal year 2009 is appropriated from the workforce development fund to the commissioner of transportation for assistance to unemployed transit users under

section 1. This appropriation must be funded by money received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

(b) \$..... in fiscal year 2009 is appropriated from the workforce development fund to the Metropolitan Council for assistance to unemployed transit users under section 2. This appropriation must be funded by money received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Sec. 4. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

(a) \$..... in fiscal year 2010 and \$..... in fiscal year 2011 are appropriated from the workforce development fund to the commissioner of transportation for assistance to unemployed transit users under section 1. This appropriation must be funded by money received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Public Law 111-5.

(b) \$..... in fiscal year 2010 and \$..... in fiscal year 2011 are appropriated from the workforce development fund to the Metropolitan Council for assistance to unemployed transit users under section 2. This appropriation must be funded by money received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

(c) If the appropriations for either year are insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available for it, if permitted by the terms of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act without loss of federal funds.

Sec. 5. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Sections 1 to 3 are effective the day following final enactment. Section 4 is effective July 1, 2009. Sections 1 and 2 expire June 30, 2011.