

CHAPTER 528—H.F.No.3035
[Coded in Part]

An act relating to mass transit; approving the bus service expansion report and providing funds therefor; setting bus fares; amending Minnesota Statutes 1971, Sections 473A.09, by adding a subdivision; 473A.111, Subdivision 4; and Minnesota Statutes, 1973 Supplement, Section 473A.111, Subdivision 1.

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

Section 1. METROPOLITAN TRANSIT; EXPANDED BUS SERVICE. The twin cities area metropolitan transit commission is hereby authorized to implement its bus service expansion report as adopted by the metropolitan transit commission on February 20, 1974. It is the intent of the legislature to have this program substantially completed in 1977. No highway funds dedicated for use in areas outside the twin cities metropolitan public transit area shall be used for the purposes of this act. The commission shall make a progress report to the legislature in January of each year until the year following the completion of this program. The 1975 report shall also include recommendations for alternative methods of financing and alternative bus system passenger fares, including recommendations on single fare plans and elimination of fare zones.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 473A.09, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 12. BUS SYSTEM FARES. The commission shall not charge bus system passengers a total fare of more than \$.50 for any ride; except that the commission may establish separate fares for passengers on express bus service. This subdivision shall be in effect on January 30, 1975.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes, 1973 Supplement, Section 473A.111, Subdivision 1, is amended to read:

473A.111 TRANSIT TAX LEVIES. Subdivision 1. AMOUNT. For the purposes of chapter 473A and the metropolitan transit system, the metropolitan transit commission may levy upon all taxable property within the metropolitan transit taxing district, defined herein, a transit tax, which shall not in any year exceed the sum of the following:

(a) An amount equal to ~~1.45~~ 2.87 mills times the assessed value of all such property some or all of the proceeds of which may be used to provide for the full and timely payment of its certificates of indebtedness and other obligations of the commission to which collections of the wheelage tax and replacement property tax under Minnesota Statutes 1969, Section 473A.14, have been pledged, plus any amount

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needed for compliance with any final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction requiring payment of any amount of the wheelage tax levied by the commission for 1971 and prior years; except that the amount of taxes which may be levied in any year for the operating costs of the commission shall, except where this reduction would render the commission ineligible for the federal aid involved, be further reduced by the amount of any funds received by the commission during the previous year from federal grants to cover operating costs; plus

(b) Such an additional amount equal to .04 mills times the assessed valuation of all such property all of which shall be used for the operating cost of service programs for the handicapped; plus

~~(b)~~(c) Such additional amount, if any, as the commission determines to be necessary to provide for the full and timely payment of its certificates of indebtedness and other obligations to which property taxes under this section have been pledged, provided that the amount of principal and interest to come due on such obligations shall not exceed \$3,000,000 in any year ; plus an additional amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 in any one year to be used exclusively to provide for the full and timely payment of certificates of indebtedness and other obligations issued for the purposes of the bus service expansion report as adopted by the metropolitan transit commission on February 20, 1974, to which property taxes under this section have been pledged;

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed as providing funding for the preliminary engineering, studies, or construction for the automated fixed guideway system proposed in the 1972 transit development program of the commission .

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 473A.111, Subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **USE OF PROCEEDS.** (1) A portion of the proceeds of the tax described in this section shall be used to provide transit services, at no cost, between the hours of 9:00 AM and ~~3:00~~3:30 PM, and from 6:30 PM until the last bus on Monday through Friday of each week, and all day Saturday and Sunday to all those persons 65 years of age or over holding a medicare card or a special golden age identification card issued by the commission , and to all those persons under the age of 18 .

(2) Establish an express bus system to those areas within the transit taxing district at the earliest practicable time over existing highways and streets in conjunction with the federal highway administration, the urban mass transportation administration, the Minnesota highway department, the metropolitan council, and other highway agencies.

Approved April 11, 1974.

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