



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB0103

Introduced 1/23/2019, by Sen. Martin A. Sandoval

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

30 ILCS 740/2-15.2
70 ILCS 3605/51
70 ILCS 3610/8.6
70 ILCS 3615/3A.15
70 ILCS 3615/3B.14

Amends the Downstate Public Transportation Act, the Metropolitan Transit Authority Act, the Local Mass Transit District Act, and the Regional Transportation Authority Act. Provides for free fares for veterans with disabilities, reduced fares for other veterans, and free fares for specified high school students on days when school is in session on public transportation. Provides for a continuing appropriation beginning in Fiscal Year 2020 to cover the free and reduced fares. Effective immediately.

LRB101 04870 AWJ 49879 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Downstate Public Transportation Act is
5 amended by changing Section 2-15.2 as follows:

6 (30 ILCS 740/2-15.2)

7 Sec. 2-15.2. Free and reduced services; eligibility.

8 (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
9 60 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
10 the 95th General Assembly and until subsection (b) is
11 implemented, any fixed route public transportation services
12 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts
13 of, every participant, as defined in Section 2-2.02 (1)(a),
14 shall be provided without charge to all senior citizen
15 residents of the participant aged 65 and older, under such
16 conditions as shall be prescribed by the participant.

17 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
18 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
19 the 96th General Assembly, any fixed route public
20 transportation services provided by, or under grant or purchase
21 of service contracts of, every participant, as defined in
22 Section 2-2.02 (1)(a), shall be provided without charge to
23 senior citizens aged 65 and older who meet the income

1 eligibility limitation set forth in subsection (a-5) of Section
2 4 of the Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Property
3 Tax Relief Act, under such conditions as shall be prescribed by
4 the participant. The Department on Aging shall furnish all
5 information reasonably necessary to determine eligibility,
6 including updated lists of individuals who are eligible for
7 services without charge under this Section. Nothing in this
8 Section shall relieve the participant from providing reduced
9 fares as may be required by federal law.

10 (c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
11 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
12 the 101st General Assembly, any fixed route public
13 transportation services provided by, or under grant or purchase
14 of service contracts of, a participant shall be provided (i)
15 without charge to a veteran that has a combined disability
16 rating of more than 70% as certified by the U.S. Department of
17 Veterans Affairs, and (ii) at a 50% reduced fare for a veteran
18 who has a combined disability rating of 30% to 70% as certified
19 by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, under conditions
20 prescribed by each participant.

21 (d) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, on and after
22 January 1, 2020, any fixed route public transportation services
23 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts
24 of, a participant shall be provided without charge to high
25 school students that are eligible for free or reduced price
26 meals and free milk under the federal National School Lunch

1 Program or the Commodity School Program on days when school is
2 in session.

3 (e) On the first December 31st after the effective date of
4 this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly and on
5 December 31st of each year thereafter, each participant shall
6 certify to the State Comptroller the annual amount necessary
7 for payment of expenses related to subsections (c) and (d).
8 Beginning in Fiscal Year 2020, there is hereby appropriated, on
9 an irrevocable and continuing annual basis, from the Road Fund
10 amounts equal to the amount certified each year by each
11 participant for payment of expenses related to subsections (c)
12 and (d). The moneys appropriated under this subsection (e)
13 shall be paid to each participant in an amount equal to the
14 participant's certification for payment of expenses related to
15 subsections (c) and (d).

16 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)

17 Section 10. The Metropolitan Transit Authority Act is
18 amended by changing Section 51 as follows:

19 (70 ILCS 3605/51)

20 Sec. 51. Free and reduced services; eligibility.

21 (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
22 60 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
23 the 95th General Assembly and until subsection (b) is
24 implemented, any fixed route public transportation services

1 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts
2 of, the Board shall be provided without charge to all senior
3 citizens of the Metropolitan Region (as such term is defined in
4 70 ILCS 3615/1.03) aged 65 and older, under such conditions as
5 shall be prescribed by the Board.

6 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
7 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
8 the 96th General Assembly, any fixed route public
9 transportation services provided by, or under grant or purchase
10 of service contracts of, the Board shall be provided without
11 charge to senior citizens aged 65 and older who meet the income
12 eligibility limitation set forth in subsection (a-5) of Section
13 4 of the Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Property
14 Tax Relief Act, under such conditions as shall be prescribed by
15 the Board. The Department on Aging shall furnish all
16 information reasonably necessary to determine eligibility,
17 including updated lists of individuals who are eligible for
18 services without charge under this Section. Nothing in this
19 Section shall relieve the Board from providing reduced fares as
20 may be required by federal law.

21 (c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
22 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
23 the 101st General Assembly, any fixed route public
24 transportation services provided by, or under grant or purchase
25 of service contracts of, the Board shall be provided (i)
26 without charge to a veteran that has a combined disability

1 rating of more than 70% as certified by the U.S. Department of
2 Veterans Affairs, and (ii) at a 50% reduced fare for a veteran
3 who has a combined disability rating of 30% to 70% as certified
4 by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, under conditions
5 prescribed by the Board.

6 (d) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, on and after
7 January 1, 2020, any fixed route public transportation services
8 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts
9 of, the Board shall be provided without charge to high school
10 students that are eligible for free or reduced price meals and
11 free milk under the federal National School Lunch Program or
12 the Commodity School Program on days when school is in session.

13 (e) On the first December 31st after the effective date of
14 this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly and on
15 December 31st of each year thereafter, the Board shall certify
16 to the State Comptroller the annual amount necessary for
17 payment of expenses related to subsections (c) and (d).
18 Beginning in Fiscal Year 2020, there is hereby appropriated, on
19 an irrevocable and continuing annual basis, from the Road Fund
20 an amount equal to the amount certified each year by the Board
21 for payment of expenses related to subsections (c) and (d). The
22 moneys appropriated under this subsection (e) shall be paid to
23 the Board in an amount equal to the Board's certification for
24 payment of expenses related to subsections (c) and (d).

25 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)

1 Section 15. The Local Mass Transit District Act is amended
2 by changing Section 8.6 as follows:

3 (70 ILCS 3610/8.6)

4 Sec. 8.6. Free and reduced services; eligibility.

5 (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
6 60 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
7 the 95th General Assembly and until subsection (b) is
8 implemented, any fixed route public transportation services
9 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts
10 of, every District shall be provided without charge to all
11 senior citizens of the District aged 65 and older, under such
12 conditions as shall be prescribed by the District.

13 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
14 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
15 the 96th General Assembly, any fixed route public
16 transportation services provided by, or under grant or purchase
17 of service contracts of, every District shall be provided
18 without charge to senior citizens aged 65 and older who meet
19 the income eligibility limitation set forth in subsection (a-5)
20 of Section 4 of the Senior Citizens and Persons with
21 Disabilities Property Tax Relief Act, under such conditions as
22 shall be prescribed by the District. The Department on Aging
23 shall furnish all information reasonably necessary to
24 determine eligibility, including updated lists of individuals
25 who are eligible for services without charge under this

1 Section. Nothing in this Section shall relieve the District
2 from providing reduced fares as may be required by federal law.

3 (c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
4 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
5 the 101st General Assembly, any fixed route public
6 transportation services provided by, or under grant or purchase
7 of service contracts of, every District shall be provided (i)
8 without charge to a veteran that has a combined disability
9 rating of more than 70% as certified by the U.S. Department of
10 Veterans Affairs, and (ii) at a 50% reduced fare for a veteran
11 who has a combined disability rating of 30% to 70% as certified
12 by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, under conditions
13 prescribed by each District.

14 (d) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, on and after
15 January 1, 2020, any fixed route public transportation services
16 provided by, or under grant or purchase of device contracts of,
17 each District shall be provided without charge to high school
18 students that are eligible for free or reduced price meals and
19 free milk under the federal National School Lunch Program or
20 the Commodity School Program on days when school is in session.

21 (e) On the first December 31st after the effective date of
22 this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly and on
23 December 31st of each year thereafter, each District shall
24 certify to the State Comptroller the annual amount necessary
25 for payment of expenses related to subsections (c) and (d).
26 Beginning in Fiscal Year 2020, there is hereby appropriated, on

1 an irrevocable and continuing annual basis, from the Road Fund
2 amounts equal to the amount certified each year by each
3 District for payment of expenses related to subsections (c) and
4 (d). The moneys appropriated under this subsection (e) shall be
5 paid to each District in an amount equal to the District's
6 certification for payment of expenses related to subsections
7 (c) and (d).

8 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)

9 Section 20. The Regional Transportation Authority Act is
10 amended by changing Sections 3A.15 and 3B.14 as follows:

11 (70 ILCS 3615/3A.15)

12 Sec. 3A.15. Free and reduced services; eligibility.

13 (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
14 60 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
15 the 95th General Assembly and until subsection (b) is
16 implemented, any fixed route public transportation services
17 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts
18 of, the Suburban Bus Board shall be provided without charge to
19 all senior citizens of the Metropolitan Region aged 65 and
20 older, under such conditions as shall be prescribed by the
21 Suburban Bus Board.

22 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
23 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
24 the 96th General Assembly, any fixed route public

1 transportation services provided by, or under grant or purchase
2 of service contracts of, the Suburban Bus Board shall be
3 provided without charge to senior citizens aged 65 and older
4 who meet the income eligibility limitation set forth in
5 subsection (a-5) of Section 4 of the Senior Citizens and
6 Persons with Disabilities Property Tax Relief Act, under such
7 conditions as shall be prescribed by the Suburban Bus Board.
8 The Department on Aging shall furnish all information
9 reasonably necessary to determine eligibility, including
10 updated lists of individuals who are eligible for services
11 without charge under this Section. Nothing in this Section
12 shall relieve the Suburban Bus Board from providing reduced
13 fares as may be required by federal law.

14 (c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
15 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
16 the 101st General Assembly, any fixed route public
17 transportation services provided by, or under grant or purchase
18 of service contracts of, the Suburban Bus Board shall be
19 provided (i) without charge to a veteran that has a combined
20 disability rating of more than 70% as certified by the U.S.
21 Department of Veterans Affairs, and (ii) at a 50% reduced fare
22 for a veteran who has a combined disability rating of 30% to
23 70% as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs,
24 under conditions prescribed by the Suburban Bus Board.

25 (d) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, on and after
26 January 1, 2020, any fixed route public transportation services

1 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts
2 of, the Suburban Bus Board shall be provided without charge to
3 high school students that are eligible for free or reduced
4 price meals and free milk under the federal National School
5 Lunch Program or the Commodity School Program on days when
6 school is in session.

7 (e) On the first December 31st after the effective date of
8 this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly and on
9 December 31st of each year thereafter, the Suburban Bus Board
10 shall certify to the State Comptroller the annual amount
11 necessary for payment of expenses related to subsections (c)
12 and (d). Beginning in Fiscal Year 2020, there is hereby
13 appropriated, on an irrevocable and continuing annual basis,
14 from the Road Fund an amount equal to the amount certified each
15 year by the Suburban Bus Board for payment of expenses related
16 to subsections (c) and (d). The moneys appropriated under this
17 subsection (e) shall be paid to the Suburban Bus Board in an
18 amount equal to the Suburban Bus Board's certification for
19 payment of expenses related to subsections (c) and (d).

20 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)

21 (70 ILCS 3615/3B.14)

22 Sec. 3B.14. Free and reduced services; eligibility.

23 (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
24 60 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
25 the 95th General Assembly and until subsection (b) is

1 implemented, any fixed route public transportation services
2 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts
3 of, the Commuter Rail Board shall be provided without charge to
4 all senior citizens of the Metropolitan Region aged 65 and
5 older, under such conditions as shall be prescribed by the
6 Commuter Rail Board.

7 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
8 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
9 the 96th General Assembly, any fixed route public
10 transportation services provided by, or under grant or purchase
11 of service contracts of, the Commuter Rail Board shall be
12 provided without charge to senior citizens aged 65 and older
13 who meet the income eligibility limitation set forth in
14 subsection (a-5) of Section 4 of the Senior Citizens and
15 Persons with Disabilities Property Tax Relief Act, under such
16 conditions as shall be prescribed by the Commuter Rail Board.
17 The Department on Aging shall furnish all information
18 reasonably necessary to determine eligibility, including
19 updated lists of individuals who are eligible for services
20 without charge under this Section. Nothing in this Section
21 shall relieve the Commuter Rail Board from providing reduced
22 fares as may be required by federal law.

23 (c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no later than
24 180 days following the effective date of this amendatory Act of
25 the 101st General Assembly, any fixed route public
26 transportation services provided by, or under grant or purchase

1 of service contracts of, the Commuter Rail Board shall be
2 provided (i) without charge to a veteran that has a combined
3 disability rating of more than 70% as certified by the U.S.
4 Department of Veterans Affairs, and (ii) at a 50% reduced fare
5 for a veteran who has a combined disability rating of 30% to
6 70% as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs,
7 under conditions prescribed by the Commuter Rail Board.

8 (d) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, on and after
9 January 1, 2020, any fixed route public transportation services
10 provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts
11 of, the Commuter Rail Board shall be provided without charge to
12 high school students that are eligible for free or reduced
13 price meals and free milk under the federal National School
14 Lunch Program or the Commodity School Program on days when
15 school is in session.

16 (e) On the first December 31st after the effective date of
17 this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly and on
18 December 31st of each year thereafter, the Commuter Rail Board
19 shall certify to the State Comptroller the annual amount
20 necessary for payment of expenses related to subsections (c)
21 and (d). Beginning in Fiscal Year 2020, there is hereby
22 appropriated, on an irrevocable and continuing annual basis,
23 from the Road Fund an amount equal to the amount certified each
24 year by the Commuter Rail Board for payment of expenses related
25 to subsections (c) and (d). The moneys appropriated under this
26 subsection (e) shall be paid to the Commuter Rail Board in an

1 amount equal to the Commuter Rail Board's certification for
2 payment of expenses related to subsections (c) and (d).

3 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)

4 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
5 becoming law.