

# HB2884



## 95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2007 and 2008

**HB2884**

Introduced 2/26/2007, by Rep. Tom Cross

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

70 ILCS 3615/2.20

from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 702.20

Amends the Regional Transportation Authority Act. Makes a technical change in a Section concerning the general powers of the Authority.

LRB095 06323 HLH 26418 b

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 Regional Transportation Authority Act is  
5 amended by changing Section 2.20 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 3615/2.20) (from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 702.20)

7 Sec. 2.20. General Powers.

8 (a) Except as otherwise limited by this Act, the ~~the~~  
9 Authority shall also have all powers necessary to meet its  
10 responsibilities and to carry out its purposes, including, but  
11 not limited to, the following powers:

12 (i) To sue and be sued;

13 (ii) To invest any funds or any monies not required for  
14 immediate use or disbursement, as provided in "An Act  
15 relating to certain investments of public funds by public  
16 agencies", approved July 23, 1943, as now or hereafter  
17 amended;

18 (iii) To make, amend and repeal by-laws, rules and  
19 regulations, and ordinances not inconsistent with this  
20 Act;

21 (iv) To hold, sell, sell by installment contract, lease  
22 as lessor, transfer or dispose of such real or personal  
23 property as it deems appropriate in the exercise of its

1 powers or to provide for the use thereof by any  
2 transportation agency and to mortgage, pledge or otherwise  
3 grant security interests in any such property;

4 (v) To enter at reasonable times upon such lands,  
5 waters or premises as in the judgment of the Authority may  
6 be necessary, convenient or desirable for the purpose of  
7 making surveys, soundings, borings and examinations to  
8 accomplish any purpose authorized by this Act after having  
9 given reasonable notice of such proposed entry to the  
10 owners and occupants of such lands, waters or premises, the  
11 Authority being liable only for actual damage caused by  
12 such activity;

13 (vi) To make and execute all contracts and other  
14 instruments necessary or convenient to the exercise of its  
15 powers;

16 (vii) To enter into contracts of group insurance for  
17 the benefit of its employees and to provide for retirement  
18 or pensions or other employee benefit arrangements for such  
19 employees, and to assume obligations for pensions or other  
20 employee benefit arrangements for employees of  
21 transportation agencies, all or part of the facilities of  
22 which are acquired by the Authority;

23 (viii) To provide for the insurance of any property,  
24 directors, officers, employees or operations of the  
25 Authority against any risk or hazard, and to self-insure or  
26 participate in joint self-insurance pools or entities to

1 insure against such risk or hazard;

2 (ix) To appear before the Illinois Commerce Commission  
3 in all proceedings concerning the Authority, a Service  
4 Board or any transportation agency; and

5 (x) To pass all ordinances and make all rules and  
6 regulations proper or necessary to regulate the use,  
7 operation and maintenance of its property and facilities  
8 and, by ordinance, to prescribe fines or penalties for  
9 violations thereof. No fine or penalty shall exceed \$1,000  
10 per offense. Any ordinance providing for any fine or  
11 penalty shall be published in a newspaper of general  
12 circulation in the metropolitan region. No such ordinance  
13 shall take effect until 10 days after its publication.

14 (xi) The Authority may enter into arbitration  
15 arrangements, which may be final and binding.

16 (xii) The Commuter Rail Board shall continue the  
17 separate public corporation, known as the Northeast  
18 Illinois Regional Commuter Railroad Corporation, as a  
19 separate operating unit to operate on behalf of the  
20 Commuter Rail Board commuter railroad facilities, subject  
21 at all times to the supervision and direction of the  
22 Commuter Rail Board and may, by ordinance, dissolve such  
23 Corporation. Such Corporation shall be governed by a Board  
24 of Directors which shall consist of the members of the  
25 Transition Board until such time as all of the members of  
26 the Commuter Rail Board are appointed and qualified and

1           thereafter the members of the Commuter Rail Board. Such  
2 Corporation shall have all the powers given the Authority  
3 and the Commuter Rail Board under Article II of this Act  
4 (other than under Section 2.13) as are delegated to it by  
5 ordinance of the Commuter Rail Board with regard to such  
6 operation of facilities and the same exemptions,  
7 restrictions and limitations as are provided by law with  
8 regard to the Authority shall apply to such Corporation.  
9 Such Corporation shall be a transportation agency as  
10 provided in this Act except for purposes of paragraph (e)  
11 of Section 3.01 of this Act.

12           (xiii) The Authority shall cooperate with the Illinois  
13 Commerce Commission and local law enforcement agencies in  
14 establishing a two year pilot program in DuPage County to  
15 determine the effectiveness of an automated railroad grade  
16 crossing enforcement system.

17           (b) In each case in which this Act gives the Authority the  
18 power to construct or acquire real or personal property, the  
19 Authority shall have the power to acquire such property by  
20 contract, purchase, gift, grant, exchange for other property or  
21 rights in property, lease (or sublease) or installment or  
22 conditional purchase contracts, which leases or contracts may  
23 provide for consideration therefor to be paid in annual  
24 installments during a period not exceeding 40 years. Property  
25 may be acquired subject to such conditions, restrictions,  
26 liens, or security or other interests of other parties as the

1 Authority may deem appropriate, and in each case the Authority  
2 may acquire a joint, leasehold, easement, license or other  
3 partial interest in such property. Any such acquisition may  
4 provide for the assumption of, or agreement to pay, perform or  
5 discharge outstanding or continuing duties, obligations or  
6 liabilities of the seller, lessor, donor or other transferor of  
7 or of the trustee with regard to such property. In connection  
8 with the acquisition of public transportation equipment,  
9 including, but not limited to, rolling stock, vehicles,  
10 locomotives, buses or rapid transit equipment, the Authority  
11 may also execute agreements concerning such equipment leases,  
12 equipment trust certificates, conditional purchase agreements  
13 and such other security agreements and may make such agreements  
14 and covenants as required, in the form customarily used in such  
15 cases appropriate to effect such acquisition. Obligations of  
16 the Authority incurred pursuant to this Section shall not be  
17 considered bonds or notes within the meaning of Section 4.04 of  
18 this Act.

19 (c) The Authority shall assume all costs of rights,  
20 benefits and protective conditions to which any employee is  
21 entitled under this Act from any transportation agency in the  
22 event of the inability of the transportation agency to meet its  
23 obligations in relation thereto due to bankruptcy or  
24 insolvency, provided that the Authority shall retain the right  
25 to proceed against the bankrupt or insolvent transportation  
26 agency or its successors, trustees, assigns or debtors for the

1 costs assumed. The Authority may mitigate its liability under  
2 this paragraph (c) and under Section 2.16 to the extent of  
3 employment and employment benefits which it tenders.

4 (Source: P.A. 89-454, eff. 5-17-96.)