



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB1711

by Rep. Cynthia Soto

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/1-107.1 new
625 ILCS 5/11-709.1
625 ILCS 5/11-709.2 new

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-709.1

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Defines "bus rapid transit vehicle" as a bus specifically authorized by the Department of Transportation to be operated upon highways and shoulders for bus rapid transit. Adds bus rapid transit vehicles to the list of vehicles exempted from prohibitions against driving on the shoulder. Creates the Bus Rapid Transit Pilot Program. Provides that commencing January 1, 2011, the Department, in cooperation with the Regional Transportation Authority and the Illinois State Police, shall establish a 5-year pilot program within the boundaries of the Regional Transportation Authority for bus rapid transit on highways and shoulders. Provides that the Department may adopt rules as necessary to implement the bus rapid transit pilot program, and that the Department shall present to the General Assembly a report on the effectiveness of bus rapid transit at the conclusion of the 5-year pilot program.

LRB097 05255 HEP 45307 b

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by changing
5 Section 11-709.1 and by adding Sections 1-107.1 and 11-709.2 as
6 follows:

7 (625 ILCS 5/1-107.1 new)

8 Sec. 1-107.1. Bus rapid transit vehicle. A bus specifically
9 authorized by the Department to be operated upon highways and
10 shoulders for bus rapid transit.

11 (625 ILCS 5/11-709.1) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-709.1)

12 Sec. 11-709.1. Driving on the shoulder.

13 (a) Vehicles shall be driven on a roadway, and shall only
14 be driven on the shoulder for the purpose of stopping or
15 accelerating from a stop while merging into traffic. It shall
16 be a violation of this Section if while merging into traffic
17 and while on the shoulder, the vehicle passes any other vehicle
18 on the roadway adjacent to it.

19 (b) This Section shall not apply to any authorized
20 emergency vehicle, to any authorized bus rapid transit vehicle,
21 to any farm tractor or implement of husbandry, to any service
22 vehicle while engaged in maintenance of the highway or related

1 work, or to any authorized vehicle within a designated
2 construction zone.

3 (Source: P.A. 95-785, eff. 8-7-08.)

4 (625 ILCS 5/11-709.2 new)

5 Sec. 11-709.2. Bus rapid transit pilot program.

6 (a) For purposes of this Section, bus rapid transit is the
7 use of specifically designated shoulders of roadways for
8 authorized rapid transit lanes.

9 (b) Commencing January 1, 2011, the Department, in
10 cooperation with the Regional Transportation Authority and the
11 Illinois State Police, shall establish a 5-year pilot program
12 within the boundaries of the Regional Transportation Authority
13 for bus rapid transit on highways and shoulders. The pilot
14 program may be implemented on shoulders of highways as
15 designated by the Department in cooperation with the Regional
16 Transportation Authority. Designated shoulders of roadways may
17 be used by bus rapid transit vehicles at times and locations as
18 set by the Department in cooperation with the Regional
19 Transportation Authority. The Department may adopt rules as
20 necessary for the implementation of the bus rapid transit pilot
21 program.

22 (c) At the conclusion of the 5-year pilot program
23 established under subsection (b) of this Section, the
24 Department shall present to the General Assembly a report on
25 the effectiveness of bus rapid transit.