

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 1-209.3, 11-709.2, and
6 11-709.3 as follows:

7 (625 ILCS 5/1-209.3 new)

8 Sec. 1-209.3. Transit bus. A bus engaged in public
9 transportation as defined by the Regional Transportation
10 Authority Act and authorized by the Department to be used on
11 specifically designated roadway shoulders.

12 (625 ILCS 5/11-709.1) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-709.1)

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

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

20 (b) This Section shall not apply to any authorized
21 emergency vehicle, to any authorized transit bus, to any farm
22 tractor or implement of husbandry, to any service vehicle while

1 engaged in maintenance of the highway or related work, or to
2 any authorized vehicle within a designated 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 on shoulder pilot program.

6 (a) For purposes of this Section, "bus on shoulders" is the
7 use of specifically designated shoulders of roadways by
8 authorized transit buses. The shoulders may be used by transit
9 buses at times and locations as set by the Department in
10 cooperation with the Regional Transportation Authority and the
11 Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation
12 Authority.

13 (b) Commencing on the effective date of this amendatory Act
14 of the 97th General Assembly, the Department along with the
15 Regional Transportation Authority and Suburban Bus Division of
16 the Regional Transportation Authority in cooperation with the
17 Illinois State Police shall establish a 5-year pilot program
18 within the boundaries of the Regional Transportation Authority
19 for transit buses on highways and shoulders. The pilot program
20 may be implemented on shoulders of highways as designated by
21 the Department in cooperation with the Regional Transportation
22 Authority and Suburban Bus Division of the Regional
23 Transportation Authority. The Department may adopt rules
24 necessary for transit buses to use roadway shoulders.

25 (c) After the pilot program established under subsection

1 (b) of this Section has been operating for 2 years, the
2 Department in cooperation with the Regional Transit Authority,
3 the Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation
4 Authority, and the Illinois State Police shall issue a report
5 to the General Assembly on the effectiveness of the bus on
6 shoulders pilot program.

7 (625 ILCS 5/11-709.3 new)

8 Sec. 11-709.3. Transit buses on shoulders - toll highways.
9 The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority may allow transit
10 buses to use the shoulders of highways under its jurisdiction
11 as part of the bus on shoulder pilot program under Section
12 11-709.2 of this Code.

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
14 becoming law.