

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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

4 Section 5. The Department of Transportation Law of the
5 Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is amended by adding
6 Section 2705-355 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 2705/2705-355 new)

8 Sec. 2705-355. Amtrak Illinois bus program.

9 (a) The purpose of this amendatory Act of the 97th General
10 Assembly is to create a pilot program for intercity bus service
11 that generates enough ticket revenue to cover all of its costs
12 and to generate more ridership and revenue for the Amtrak
13 Illinois rail service. This bus service shall be known as the
14 Amtrak Illinois bus program.

15 (b) The Department shall issue a concession to an intercity
16 bus operator for a period of 2 years. The concessionaire shall
17 participate in the Amtrak Thruways program.

18 (c) The Department shall require Amtrak, as a condition of
19 receiving State funds for intercity rail service, to enroll the
20 concessionaire in the Amtrak Thruways program and sell and
21 issue tickets for the bus service of the concessionaire. The
22 Department shall further require Amtrak, as a condition of
23 receiving State funds for intercity rail service, to account

1 for the ticket revenue of all rail passengers who also
2 purchased a bus ticket from the concessionaire for the same
3 trip. This revenue of rail tickets sold to individuals who also
4 purchased a bus ticket from the concessionaire on the same trip
5 shall be distributed to the concessionaire from Amtrak on a
6 monthly basis for the duration of the concession. Any
7 additional revenue collected by Amtrak due to higher ticket
8 prices sold to non-bus passengers shall remain with Amtrak and
9 may be used to reduce the annual operating subsidy for rail
10 service due from the State. No Amtrak revenues may be
11 redirected to the bus operator.

12 (d) The concessionaire shall affix large signage that reads
13 "Amtrak Illinois" on all bus vehicles used by the
14 concessionaire to transport passengers. The Department shall
15 require Amtrak, as a condition of receiving State funds for
16 intercity rail service, to allow the concessionaire to use the
17 Amtrak Illinois trademark and logo as part of their signage.

18 (e) The Department shall market Amtrak Illinois bus service
19 in the same manner as the Department markets Amtrak Illinois
20 rail service.

21 (f) The concession shall be for at least one of the
22 following routes: Champaign, Normal, Peoria, Galesburg, and
23 the Quad Cities; and Champaign, Decatur, Springfield, and
24 Quincy, with any intermediate stops of the concessionaire's
25 choosing. These routes shall be timed to connect with Amtrak
26 service in Champaign, Normal, Galesburg, and Springfield as

1 much as possible. Preference shall be granted for
2 concessionaire proposals that include the most frequencies on
3 the routes. The Department may grant a concession for one or
4 both of these routes as part of the pilot program.

5 (g) The concessionaire shall be encouraged to pick up and
6 drop off bus passengers that do not also purchase a rail
7 ticket.

8 (h) The Department shall issue a Request for Proposals from
9 potential concessionaires by November 1, 2012 and shall select
10 the concessionaire by February 1, 2013. The Request for
11 Proposals shall contain a statement that the only revenue
12 available to cover operating costs of the concessionaire will
13 be from the farebox and any other sources generated by the
14 concessionaire. The State shall have no cost responsibility for
15 the service. Service shall begin by April 1, 2013 to coincide
16 with the issuance of the Amtrak timetable in the spring of
17 2013.

18 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
19 becoming law.