

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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Interagency Coordinating Committee on Transportation Act.

6 Section 5. Findings; purpose. The General Assembly finds  
7 that safe, reliable, and convenient transportation to and  
8 from work and related destinations such as child care and  
9 education is an extremely important factor in the ability to  
10 find and retain employment, particularly in the lower income  
11 sectors of the economy. For many people, these transportation  
12 needs are not met by existing mass transit. This creates a  
13 need for innovative transportation to work strategies that  
14 fit within local circumstances. Many localities around  
15 Illinois do not have the resources or the expertise to  
16 develop and support innovative transportation options.  
17 Localities need access to technical assistance both in  
18 designing programs and in accessing various sources of State  
19 and federal funds. Illinois also leaves substantial federal  
20 transportation funds unclaimed because of the failure to put  
21 forward projects to use the funds. Thus, Illinois would  
22 benefit from an Interagency Coordinating Committee to set  
23 priorities and define a vision for improving access to  
24 transportation for the transportation disadvantaged.  
25 Illinois would also benefit from a unified State process to  
26 apply for federal transportation assistance for innovative  
27 transportation to work projects and strategies and for  
28 supplying the matching funds necessary to access that federal  
29 assistance. The purpose of this Act is to establish the  
30 Interagency Coordinating Committee on Transportation.

1 Section 10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

2 (1) "Agency" means an official, commission,  
3 authority, council, department, committee, division,  
4 bureau, board, or any other unit or entity of the State,  
5 a municipality, a county, or other local governing body  
6 or a private not-for-profit transportation service  
7 providing agency.

8 (2) "Committee" means the Illinois Coordinating  
9 Committee on Transportation.

10 (3) "Coordination" means the arrangement for the  
11 provision of transportation services to the  
12 transportation disadvantaged in a manner that is  
13 cost-effective, efficient, and reduces fragmentation and  
14 duplication of services.

15 (4) "Transportation disadvantaged" means those  
16 persons who, because of physical or mental disability,  
17 income status, age, location of residence, or other  
18 reasons are unable to transport themselves or to purchase  
19 affordable transportation and are, therefore, dependent  
20 upon others to obtain access to health care, employment,  
21 education, shopping, social activities, or other  
22 life-sustaining activities.

23 Section 15. Committee. The Illinois Coordinating  
24 Committee on Transportation is created and shall consist of  
25 the following members:

26 (1) The Governor or his or her designee.

27 (2) The Secretary of Transportation or his or her  
28 designee.

29 (3) The Secretary of Human Services (or his or her  
30 designee) and one additional representative of the  
31 Department of Human Services designated by the Secretary.

32 (4) The Director of Aging or his or her designee.

33 (5) The Director of Public Aid or his or her

1           designee.

2           (6) The Director of Commerce and Community Affairs  
3           or his or her designee.

4           (7) A representative of the Illinois Rural Transit  
5           Assistance Center.

6           (8) A person who is a member of a recognized  
7           statewide organization representing older residents of  
8           Illinois.

9           (9) A representative of centers for independent  
10          living.

11          (10) A representative of the Illinois Public  
12          Transportation Association.

13          (11) A representative of an existing transportation  
14          system that coordinates and provides transit services in  
15          a multi-county area for the Department of Transportation,  
16          Department of Human Services, Department of Commerce and  
17          Community Affairs, or Department on Aging.

18          (12) A representative of a statewide organization  
19          of rehabilitation facilities or other providers of  
20          services for persons with one or more disabilities.

21          (13) A representative of the Illinois Council on  
22          Developmental Disabilities.

23          (14) A representative of a community based  
24          organization.

25          (15) A representative of the Department of Public  
26          Health.

27          (16) A representative of the Rural Partners.

28          The Governor shall appoint the members of the Committee  
29          other than those named in paragraphs (1) through (6) of this  
30          Section. The Governor or his or her designee shall serve as  
31          chairperson of the Committee and shall convene the meetings  
32          of the Committee. The Secretary of Transportation and a  
33          representative of a community based organization involved in  
34          transportation or their designees, shall serve as

1 co-vice-chairpersons and shall be responsible for staff  
2 support for the committee.

3 Section 20. Duties of Committee. The Committee shall  
4 encourage the coordination of public and private  
5 transportation services, with priority given to services  
6 directed toward those populations who are currently not  
7 served or who are underserved by existing public transit.  
8 The Committee shall aim to reduce duplicative services in  
9 order to achieve a transportation system that serves the most  
10 citizens possible in the most cost-effective and efficient  
11 manner possible. The Committee shall seek innovative  
12 approaches to providing and funding local transportation  
13 services and offer their expertise to communities statewide.  
14 Specifically, the Committee shall:

15 (1) Coordinate State efforts within federal  
16 guidelines to facilitate coordination of human service  
17 transportation programs.

18 (2) Establish statewide priorities and draft a  
19 strategic plan. These priorities should include:  
20 developing objectives for providing essential  
21 transportation services to the transportation  
22 disadvantaged; developing a process for requesting  
23 federal funds such as the Job Access and Reverse Commute  
24 (JARC) Grant program that is based on input from  
25 communities statewide; assisting communities in  
26 identifying funds from other available sources for  
27 projects that are not an eligible use of JARC funds; and  
28 developing a long-range plan to identify and recruit  
29 potential stakeholders in future community transportation  
30 initiatives.

31 (3) Develop goals and objectives to reduce  
32 duplication of services and achieve coverage that is as  
33 complete as possible.

1           (4) Address any and all transportation barriers  
2           and propose solutions to eliminate these barriers.

3           (5) Serve as a clearinghouse for information about  
4           funding sources and innovations in serving the  
5           transportation disadvantaged.

6           (6) Submit a report, not later than February 1,  
7           2004, to the Governor and the General Assembly that  
8           outlines the progress made by the Committee in performing  
9           its duties set forth in paragraphs (1) through (6) of  
10          this Section and makes recommendations for statutory and  
11          regulatory changes to promote coordination.

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