

# HOUSE BILL 1336

R2

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By: **Delegate Bridges**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2022

Assigned to: Appropriations and Environment and Transportation

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 14, 2022

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and Funding Commission**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and Funding  
4 Commission to study and make findings and recommendations relating to the  
5 funding, governance, and performance of mass transit in the greater Baltimore  
6 region; and generally relating to the Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and  
7 Funding Commission and mass transit.

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
9 That:

10 (a) In this section, "Commission" means the Greater Baltimore Transit  
11 Governance and Funding Commission.

12 (b) There is a Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and Funding Commission.

13 (c) (1) The Commission consists of the following members:

14 (i) One member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the  
15 President of the Senate;

16 (ii) One member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker  
17 of the House;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (iii) One individual who is an expert in mass transit issues in the  
2 greater Baltimore region, appointed by the Governor; ~~and~~

3 (iv) One representative from Amalgamated Transit Union Local  
4 1300, appointed by the Governor;

5 (v) One representative from a transportation trade association,  
6 appointed by the Governor;

7 (vi) One representative from the business community in the greater  
8 Baltimore region, appointed by the Governor; and

9 (vii) Three individuals from Baltimore City, two individuals from  
10 Baltimore County, ~~and~~ one individual from Anne Arundel County, and one individual from  
11 Howard County, each of whom shall:

12 1. Be appointed by the mayor or county executive of their  
13 respective jurisdiction; and

14 2. Have one or more of the following qualifications:

15 A. Residence in a community impacted by the lack of mass  
16 transit options or funding;

17 B. Expertise in mass transit issues in the greater Baltimore  
18 region;

19 C. Representation of a local nonprofit or advocacy group  
20 specializing in transportation issues;

21 D. Representation of an academic institution in the State; or

22 E. Representation of a historically underserved community  
23 with respect to mass transit options or funding.

24 (2) To the extent practicable, the membership of the Commission shall  
25 reflect the racial, gender, ethnic, and geographic diversity of the ~~State~~  
26 Baltimore–Columbia–Towson Metropolitan Statistical Area, according to the most recent  
27 available census data.

28 (d) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly  
29 designate the chair of the Commission.

30 (e) The ~~Department of Legislative Services and the~~ Baltimore Metropolitan  
31 Council shall provide staff for the Commission.

32 (f) (1) The Commission shall meet at least four times per calendar year.

1                   (2)    A majority of members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for  
2 the transaction of business.

3                   (3)    A member of the Commission:

4                   (i)     May not receive compensation as a member of the Commission;  
5 but

6                   (ii)    Is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard  
7 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

8                   (4)    All Commission members shall continue to serve until the reporting  
9 required in subsection (h) of this section is complete and submitted to the General Assembly  
10 and the Governor.

11                  (g)    The Commission shall:

12                   (1)    Review the findings of the Baltimore Regional Transit Governance and  
13 Funding Study published by the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board in August of  
14 2021;

15                   (2)    Make recommendations to the General Assembly and the Governor  
16 regarding changes to the funding and governance of transit in the greater Baltimore region;

17                   (3)    Study, analyze, and recommend alternative governance and funding  
18 models for the Baltimore area transit system to the current State-led model; and

19                   (4)    Perform the following tasks:

20                   (i)     Identify potential approaches that:

21                           1.    Equitably distribute governance and funding  
22 responsibilities in mass transit; and

23                           2.    Improve performance, accountability, and ridership on  
24 Baltimore's transit system;

25                   (ii)    Review the Maryland Department of Transportation's projected  
26 capital needs for comparison with the repair and service needs of the greater Baltimore  
27 public transit system;

28                   (iii)   Study examples from peer regions of successful structures for  
29 shared public transportation funding and oversight;

30                   (iv)   Review potential alternative distributions of responsibilities for  
31 public transportation planning, oversight, and funding among State and local governments

1 to improve the planning and delivery of public transportation in the greater Baltimore  
2 region;

3 (v) Review potential alternative entities or governance structures  
4 for regional mass transit that include:

5 1. The study of whether a new regional transportation entity  
6 could be created or existing entities could be given new responsibilities; and

7 2. Exploration of the general powers, duties, funding,  
8 financing, and budget authority of any potential entity;

9 (vi) Locate potential State, local, or regional funding sources for  
10 public transportation;

11 (vii) Coordinate with State, local, and other providers of public and  
12 private transit in the region; and

13 (viii) Complete any additional steps needed to improve coordination  
14 among public transportation services in the region.

15 (h) (1) On or before December 1, 2022, the Commission shall submit an interim  
16 report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with §  
17 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

18 (2) On or before December 1, 2023, the Commission shall submit a final  
19 report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with §  
20 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
22 1, 2022. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 7 months and, at the end of  
23 December 31, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall  
24 be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.