

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2505 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY MERSKI, SANCHEZ, KINSEY, HILL-EVANS, BOBACK,
SCHLOSSBERG, DELLOSO, FREEMAN, CIRESI, BURGOS, HOHENSTEIN,
RABB, MALAGARI AND SHUSTERMAN, APRIL 11, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, APRIL 11, 2022

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), entitled
2 "An act relating to the finances of the State government;
3 providing for cancer control, prevention and research, for
4 ambulatory surgical center data collection, for the Joint
5 Underwriting Association, for entertainment business
6 financial management firms, for private dam financial
7 assurance and for reinstatement of item vetoes; providing for
8 the settlement, assessment, collection, and lien of taxes,
9 bonus, and all other accounts due the Commonwealth, the
10 collection and recovery of fees and other money or property
11 due or belonging to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,
12 including escheated property and the proceeds of its sale,
13 the custody and disbursement or other disposition of funds
14 and securities belonging to or in the possession of the
15 Commonwealth, and the settlement of claims against the
16 Commonwealth, the resettlement of accounts and appeals to the
17 courts, refunds of moneys erroneously paid to the
18 Commonwealth, auditing the accounts of the Commonwealth and
19 all agencies thereof, of all public officers collecting
20 moneys payable to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,
21 and all receipts of appropriations from the Commonwealth,
22 authorizing the Commonwealth to issue tax anticipation notes
23 to defray current expenses, implementing the provisions of
24 section 7(a) of Article VIII of the Constitution of
25 Pennsylvania authorizing and restricting the incurring of
26 certain debt and imposing penalties; affecting every
27 department, board, commission, and officer of the State
28 government, every political subdivision of the State, and
29 certain officers of such subdivisions, every person,
30 association, and corporation required to pay, assess, or
31 collect taxes, or to make returns or reports under the laws
32 imposing taxes for State purposes, or to pay license fees or
33 other moneys to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,

1 every State depository and every debtor or creditor of the
2 Commonwealth," providing for microtransit grant program; and
3 making an appropriation.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known
7 as The Fiscal Code, is amended by adding an article to read:

8 ARTICLE I-K

9 MICROTRANSIT GRANT PROGRAM

10 Section 101-K. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this article
12 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
13 context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 "Department." The Department of Community and Economic
15 Development of the Commonwealth.

16 "Microtransit." Small-scale, on-demand public transit
17 services that offer fixed routes and schedules, as well as
18 flexible routes and on-demand scheduling.

19 "Transit authority." A government agency created for the
20 purpose of providing public transportation within a specific
21 region.

22 Section 102-K. Grants and funding.

23 (a) Purpose.--The Microtransit Grant Program is established
24 in the department for the purpose of administering and funding a
25 microtransit program in this Commonwealth. A grant awarded under
26 this article shall be provided to a transit authority for the
27 purpose of creating or funding the development or payment of
28 software, vehicles or other costs directly related to the
29 microtransit program.

30 (b) Operation.--A transit authority that is awarded a grant
31 under this article shall operate a microtransit grant program in

1 accordance with regulations promulgated by the department under
2 section 107-K.

3 (c) Award.--Subject to appropriation, a grant to a transit
4 authority under this section may not exceed the sum of
5 \$5,000,000.

6 Section 103-K. Application.

7 The department shall develop a microtransit grant application
8 for a transit authority to apply for a grant under this article
9 which shall include:

10 (1) The name, address and contact information of the
11 transit authority.

12 (2) The amount of grant money requested, not to exceed
13 the maximum award under section 102-K.

14 (3) The proposed use for the grant money requested.

15 (4) Any other information the department deems necessary
16 and appropriate.

17 Section 104-K. Notice.

18 The department shall provide information regarding the
19 availability and award of grant money on the department's
20 publicly accessible Internet website.

21 Section 105-K. Award of grants.

22 (a) Criteria.--Within 60 days of the submission and review
23 of the grant application, the department shall determine an
24 applicant's eligibility for grant funds and award an amount not
25 to exceed the maximum award under section 102-K.

26 (b) Notice.--The department shall provide the following
27 written information to a transit authority:

28 (1) The amount of the grant money awarded, if any, and
29 any conditions or restrictions on the use of the grant money.

30 (2) If part or all of the grant application is denied,

1 any reason for the full or partial denial.

2 (c) Other information.--If the department requests
3 additional information, a transit authority shall immediately
4 provide other documents, information and data to the department.

5 Section 106-K. Report.

6 By December 31, 2021, whichever occurs later, the department
7 shall publish on the department's publicly accessible Internet
8 website a report that lists each transit authority that received
9 grant money under this article and a summary of the information
10 specified under section 103-K.

11 Section 107-K. Regulations and guidelines.

12 (a) Partnership.--A transit authority may partner with a
13 transportation network company so long as ridership information
14 or any other information deemed necessary by the department is
15 made available to the transit authority or Commonwealth.

16 (b) Regulations.--The department shall promulgate
17 regulations necessary for the implementation of the grant
18 program under this article.

19 Section 108-K. Appropriation.

20 The sum of \$25,000,000 is appropriated to the department in
21 accordance with section 1703-A from the Budget Stabilization
22 Fund established under section 1701-A to administer and fund the
23 grant program established under this article.

24 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.