

SENATE BILL 523

By Tracy

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4 and
Title 54, relative to transportation services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 23, is amended by
adding the following language as a new section:

4-3-2309.

(a) For purposes of this section, "transportation services" means public
transportation services and transportation services for populations needing specialized
assistance.

(b) The department of transportation, department of human services, department
of children services, department of finance and administration, and other state
departments or agencies deemed appropriate by the department of transportation shall
continue to regularly collaborate to improve the overall coordination of transportation
services. Such departments shall work together to form an ongoing "interagency
transportation coordination committee" ("the coordination committee"). The lead agency
for supporting and staffing the coordination committee shall be the department of
transportation.

(c) Departmental representatives on the coordination committee shall represent
such department's policy and operational levels. The coordination committee's purpose
shall be to regularly coordinate the efforts of each agency as follows:

- (1) Improve transportation coordination;
- (2) Improve methods of delivery of passenger transportation;

(3) Improve effectiveness of service and improve overall financial efficiency;

(4) Improve universal mobility for Tennessee citizens and visitors; and

(5) Identify opportunities and barriers, and recommend solutions to improve transportation coordination.

(d) The coordination committee shall promote public education about the availability and use of transportation services in this state and provide such information to all departments in state government and to the general public.

(e) The coordination committee is directed to create a strategic transportation coordination plan that will guide its work for the next five (5) years. Such plan shall be updated every five (5) years.

(f) The department of transportation shall present an executive summary for the coordination committee to the transportation committees of the senate and house of representatives annually.

(g) Prior to issuing any grant or making an expenditure for transportation services in Tennessee, the state entity with authority to issue such grant or expenditure shall first coordinate with the coordination committee and report the amount of such grant or expenditure to the department of transportation's division of multimodal resources.

(h) Prior to expending any funds under a direct federal or private grant, the local entity receiving such grant for transportation services shall file a written report with the coordination committee detailing the amount of the grant and purpose.

(i) It is the intent of the general assembly that all departments of state government effectuate the provisions of this act using existing resources.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.