

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

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

4 ARTICLE 5

5 Section 5-1. Short title. This Article may be cited as  
6 the Transportation Resources for Innovative Projects Law.

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

1 strategies at the local level, to assist in the  
2 implementation of those strategies, to coordinate the local,  
3 State and federal funding of those programs, and to access  
4 the maximum of federal transportation to work funding.

5 Section 5-7. Definitions. As used in this Article:

6 "Department" means the Department of Transportation.

7 "TRIP Program" means the Transportation Resources for  
8 Innovative Projects Program created by this Article.

9 "JARC" means the Job Access and Reverse Commute grant  
10 program of the Federal Transit Administration.

11 Section 5-10. Establishment of Program and Funding.

12 There is established within the Department of Transportation  
13 the Transportation Resources for Innovative Projects Program.  
14 The TRIP Program shall be funded by appropriation from the  
15 General Assembly or by interagency agreement with the  
16 Department of Human Services or other departments under  
17 Section 5-25 of this Article, or by a combination of those  
18 sources.

19 Section 5-15. Functions of Program. The Program shall be  
20 a Statewide interagency effort to prompt and support local  
21 transportation innovations. It shall have 3 main functions:

22 (a) Administration of an annual process to apply for  
23 federal transportation to work assistance under the Job  
24 Access and Reverse Commute program, programs administered by  
25 the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, or  
26 similar programs, or a combination of those programs. This  
27 shall include publicizing the process, managing the  
28 application and selection process, making applications to the  
29 federal government, and identifying local projects to be part  
30 of the annual State applications to the federal government.  
31 To the extent resources permit, the TRIP Program shall

1 provide grants or guarantee funds to the local projects  
2 selected for inclusion in the State applications to complete  
3 the State funding matches necessary to access the federal  
4 funds.

5 (b) Administration of an annual process to grant funds,  
6 to the extent resources permit, to localities for innovative  
7 transportation to work strategies not eligible for federal  
8 funds.

9 (c) Provision of technical assistance to localities in  
10 the devising of innovative transportation to work strategies  
11 and in complying with the requirements for federal, State and  
12 local funding.

13 Section 5-20. Illinois Coordinating Committee on  
14 Transportation. The Illinois Coordinating Committee on  
15 Transportation created by the Illinois Coordinating Committee  
16 on Transportation Law shall serve as an interagency advisory  
17 committee to help develop policy and procedures under the  
18 TRIP Program.

19 Section 5-25. Interagency Agreement with Department of  
20 Human Services and other Departments. In addition to any  
21 other interagency agreements the Department may enter into to  
22 implement the TRIP Program, there shall be an interagency  
23 agreement with the Department of Human Services. Under the  
24 agreement, the departments shall have the following  
25 responsibilities.

26 (a) The Department of Human Services shall:

27 (1) provide an annual allotment of funds for  
28 disbursement by the Department under the TRIP Program;

29 (2) notify the Department in a timely manner of all  
30 State and federal policies, rules, and regulations that  
31 may affect the use and disbursement of the funds and  
32 provide appropriate assistance for compliance with those

1 requirements; and

2 (3) provide at least one staff member to represent  
3 the Department of Human Services on the Illinois  
4 Coordinating Committee on Transportation and in the  
5 selection process for local transportation programs for  
6 State and federal funds under the TRIP Program.

7 (b) The Department shall:

8 (1) ensure that the use of funds transferred from  
9 the Department of Human Services is in accordance with  
10 laws governing use of those funds and is coordinated with  
11 the Department of Human Services;

12 (2) collaborate with the Department of Human  
13 Services in selecting the projects to be funded under the  
14 Program;

15 (3) account for the use of funds transferred from  
16 the Department of Human Services separately from other  
17 funds;

18 (4) provide any necessary reports regarding the  
19 TRIP Program to the Department of Human Services and the  
20 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

21 (d) The Department may enter into similar interagency  
22 agreements with other agencies that transfer funds to the  
23 Department for the TRIP Program or coordinate their programs  
24 with the TRIP Program.

25 Section 5-30. TRIP Program Provisions.

26 (a) The Department annually shall solicit applications  
27 from localities for support for local transportation to work  
28 strategies. The solicitation and application process shall be  
29 timed to allow the Department to submit a package of approved  
30 local programs as the Illinois State Consolidated  
31 Transportation to Work Plan to the Federal Transit  
32 Administration for funding under the Job Access and Reverse  
33 Commute program, and to make timely submissions for other

1 sources of federal funds.

2 (b) The annual solicitation and application process  
3 shall include 2 types of grants: (i) those fundable under  
4 JARC or other federal funding sources, for which the TRIP  
5 Program grant shall be adequate, in combination with local or  
6 private funds, to complete the "local match" required by JARC  
7 or other federal programs, and (ii) those not fundable under  
8 JARC or other federal programs but otherwise addressing the  
9 purposes of the TRIP Program (for example, car purchase  
10 programs). The Department, in conjunction with the Illinois  
11 Coordinating Committee on Transportation, shall divide grant  
12 funds between these 2 types of proposals each year depending  
13 upon the merit of the proposals received and the extent to  
14 which they would accomplish the purposes of the TRIP Program,  
15 including the maximizing of federal funds. The grants may be  
16 spent over a period of up to 24 months.

17 (c) The Department shall annually submit the Illinois  
18 State Consolidated Transportation to Work Plan to the Federal  
19 Transit Administration for funding under JARC and submit  
20 applications for other federal funds as appropriate.

21 (d) The Department shall provide technical assistance to  
22 localities in developing transportation strategies, complying  
23 with application requirements, including federal  
24 requirements, and forming strategic local partnerships to  
25 improve the potential success of both the grant application  
26 and the local program itself. Local entities eligible for  
27 funding under the program include counties, municipalities,  
28 public agencies, private entities, non-profit organizations  
29 such as, but not limited to, community development  
30 corporations, transportation management associations,  
31 transportation providers, community action agencies, faith  
32 based organizations, and workforce investment boards, and  
33 other consortiums. Planning partners may, but need not  
34 necessarily, include local workforce investment boards,

1 chambers of commerce, elected officials, Metropolitan  
2 Planning Organizations, local plan commissions, and State  
3 agencies.

4 (e) The Department's rules for applications by local  
5 entities under the Program shall include, but not necessarily  
6 be limited to, the following provisions:

7 (1) The local programs should be for implementation  
8 of innovative community transportation systems that  
9 address a local transportation need or gap; they should  
10 use innovative approaches that emphasize both  
11 coordination between existing services and programs and  
12 the elimination of transportation barriers that limit  
13 workforce participation. These programs and services  
14 could, for example, be the purchase of rolling stock such  
15 as vans, new or expanded operation of transportation  
16 routes, creation of auto ownership and drivers licensing  
17 programs, new or expanded dial a ride services, vanpool  
18 or carpool programs, guaranteed ride home programs, or  
19 similar strategies that address local needs and  
20 circumstances.

21 (2) To qualify for inclusion in the State  
22 application for JARC funding or other federal funding,  
23 the applicant must have been involved in the  
24 transportation planning process for the region in which  
25 the project will operate, or exhibit knowledge of that  
26 process and its need statement and have relationships  
27 with the local transportation experts in transit  
28 authorities or county government.

29 (3) The application must include evidence of a  
30 commitment for the funding of a portion of the proposed  
31 project from local or private sources (other than State  
32 or federal sources). This portion shall not be less than  
33 1% nor more than 10% of the total project costs. The  
34 Department shall provide by rule for a sliding scale for

1 these local funding commitments based upon the relative  
2 resources in localities, so that the contribution of  
3 communities with the least resources is 1% and of  
4 communities with the most resources is 10%. The  
5 Department shall use an objective measure such as the  
6 poverty rate or the tax base in establishing the sliding  
7 scale and shall update it annually.

8 ARTICLE 10

9 Section 10-1. Short title. This Article may be cited as  
10 the Illinois Coordinating Committee on Transportation Law.

11 Section 10-5. Definitions. As used in this Article:

12 (1) "Agency" means an official, commission,  
13 authority, council, department, committee, division,  
14 bureau, board, or any other unit or entity of the State,  
15 a municipality, a county, or other local governing body  
16 or a private not-for-profit transportation service  
17 providing agency.

18 (2) "Committee" means the Illinois Coordinating  
19 Committee on Transportation.

20 (3) "Coordination" means the arrangement for the  
21 provision of transportation services to the  
22 transportation disadvantaged in a manner that is  
23 cost-effective, efficient, and reduces fragmentation and  
24 duplication of services.

25 (4) "Transportation disadvantaged" means those  
26 persons who, because of physical or mental disability,  
27 income status, age, location of residence, or other  
28 reasons are unable to transport themselves or to purchase  
29 affordable transportation and are, therefore, dependent  
30 upon others to obtain access to health care, employment,  
31 education, shopping, social activities, or other

1 life-sustaining activities.

2 Section 10-10. Committee. The Illinois Coordinating  
3 Committee on Transportation is created and shall consist of  
4 the following members:

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

6 (2) The Secretary of Transportation or his or her  
7 designee.

8 (3) The Secretary of Human Services (or his or her  
9 designee) and one additional representative of the  
10 Department of Human Services designated by the Secretary.

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

12 (5) The Director of Public Aid or his or her  
13 designee.

14 (6) The Director of Commerce and Community Affairs  
15 or his or her designee.

16 (7) A representative of the Illinois Rural Transit  
17 Assistance Center.

18 (8) A person who is a member of a recognized  
19 statewide organization representing older Illinoisans.

20 (9) A representative of centers for independent  
21 living.

22 (10) A representative of the Illinois Public  
23 Transportation Association.

24 (11) A representative of an existing transportation  
25 system that coordinates and provides transit services in  
26 a multi-county area for the Department of Transportation,  
27 Department of Human Services, Department of Commerce and  
28 Community Affairs, or Department on Aging.

29 (12) A representative of a statewide organization  
30 of rehabilitation facilities or other providers of  
31 services for persons with one or more disabilities.

32 (13) A representative of the Illinois Planning  
33 Council on Developmental Disabilities.



1           (14) A representative of a statewide organization  
2           of community action agencies.

3           The Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of  
4           Human Services, or their designees, shall serve as  
5           chairpersons and shall be responsible for staff support for  
6           the committee.

7           Section 10-15. Duties of committee. The Committee shall  
8           foster the coordination of public and private transportation  
9           services, with special attention paid to services directed  
10          toward those populations who are currently not served or who  
11          are underserved by existing public transit. The Committee  
12          shall aim to reduce duplicative services in order to achieve  
13          a transportation system that serves the most citizens  
14          possible in the most cost-effective and efficient manner  
15          possible. Specifically, the committee shall:

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

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

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

