

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 28, 2001

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 27, 2001

SENATE BILL

No. 739

Introduced by Senator Chesbro

(Coauthors: Senators Costa, and Ortiz)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Aroner, Calderon, Cardenas, Cardoza, Chu, Cohn, Dutra, Firebaugh, Horton, Keeley, Longville, Matthews, Migden, Nakano, Reyes, Salinas, Shelley, Strom-Martin, and Wiggins)

February 23, 2001

An act to add and repeal Section 14057 of the Government Code, relating to transportation, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 739, as amended, Chesbro. Rural Transit System Grant Program.

Existing law provides for funding of public transit under various programs, including the Mills-Alquist-Deddeh Act, also known as the Transportation Development Act.

This bill, until July 1, 2002, would require the Department of Transportation and the California Transportation Commission to establish a Rural Transit System Grant Program to purchase, construct, and rehabilitate transit facilities, vehicles, and equipment, including energy efficiency retrofits, and to purchase rights-of-way for transit systems. The bill would require the department to submit a report describing the projects funded under the program to the Legislature on or before June 30, 2002.

This bill would not become operative unless funds for the program are appropriated by the Budget Act of 2001.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: 2/3. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 14057 is added to the Government
2 Code, to read:

3 14057. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following
4 terms have the following meanings:

5 (1) The “program” is the Rural Transit System Grant Program
6 established under this section.

7 (2) A “rural area” is an area that is not included within the
8 boundaries of an urbanized area, as defined by the United States
9 Bureau of Census in its latest decennial census.

10 (b) Not later than August 31, 2001, the department shall
11 prepare guidelines for the implementation of a Rural Transit
12 System Grant Program and submit those guidelines to the
13 commission for review.

14 (c) Not later than October 15, 2001, both of the following shall
15 occur:

16 (1) The commission shall adopt guidelines for the program.

17 (2) The department shall establish the program in accordance
18 with this section and the guidelines adopted by the commission.

19 (d) The guidelines prepared by the department and adopted by
20 the commission shall include all of the following requirements:

21 (1) The department shall award grants to recipients on a
22 competitive basis for projects that serve primarily rural areas.

23 (2) Grants shall be used for the following purposes:

24 (A) To purchase, construct, and rehabilitate transit facilities,
25 vehicles, and equipment, including, but not limited to, energy
26 efficiency retrofits.

27 (B) To purchase rights-of-way for transit systems.

28 (3) Grants shall be awarded based on criteria that include, but
29 are not limited to, all of the following:

30 (A) Project need and effectiveness.



1 (B) Filling transit service gaps, including, but not limited to,
2 connectivity to other transit systems.

3 (C) The equitable distribution of funds.

4 (D) The potential of the project to improve the safety of
5 passengers, transit workers, and the general public.

6 (E) Replacement of vehicles or equipment that have exceeded
7 service life expectations.

8 (4) Grant awards shall be limited to any claimant, as defined in
9 Section 99203 of the Public Utilities Code.

10 (5) Grants shall require all of the following:

11 (A) A project match requirement equal to the percentage of
12 Mills-Alquist-Deddeh Act (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section
13 99200) of Part 11 of Division 10 of the Public Utilities Code) funds
14 expended for purposes other than transit, community transit
15 services, pedestrian and bicycle, and transportation planning
16 purposes, averaged over the three most recent fiscal years. The
17 match requirement may not be less than 10 percent, and may not
18 be more than 50 percent. However, no grant may be awarded to an
19 applicant in any city, county, or city and county, in which funds that
20 may be claimed by the applicant under the Mills-Alquist-Deddeh
21 Act are expended for street and road purposes pursuant to
22 subdivision (a) of Section 99400 of the Public Utilities Code in the
23 same year as the year in which the application for a grant is made.

24 (B) A demonstration of maintenance of effort.

25 (C) A demonstration of financial ability to support ongoing
26 operations of the public transportation services.

27 (e) The department shall prepare a report describing the types
28 of projects funded under the Rural Transit System Grant Program,
29 which shall be submitted to the Legislature on or before June 30,
30 2002.

31 (f) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2002, and,
32 as of January 1, 2003, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,
33 that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2003, deletes or
34 extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

35 SEC. 2. Section 1 of this act shall not become operative unless
36 the Budget Act of 2001 for the 2001–02 fiscal year contains an
37 appropriation for the Rural Transit System Grant Program.

38 SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the
39 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety



1 within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go
2 into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:
3 In order to implement, at the earliest possible time, a rural transit
4 system grant program, it is necessary that this act take effect
5 immediately.

O

