

SENATE BILL NO. 151—SENATOR SCHNEIDER

FEBRUARY 16, 2011

Referred to Committee on Transportation

SUMMARY—Requires certain governmental entities to develop a plan for a regional rapid transit system. (BDR 22-612)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 4)
(NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to transportation; requiring certain governmental entities in certain counties to develop a plan for a regional rapid transit system; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 This bill requires the regional transportation commission in any county whose
2 population is 700,000 or more (currently Clark County) to establish a regional rapid
3 transit authority. The authority is required to analyze various considerations
4 concerning the development of a regional rapid transit system, to develop a plan for
5 such a system and to report to the appropriate committees of the Legislature the
6 progress made on such analyses and plan development.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 **Section 1.** (Deleted by amendment.)
2 **Sec. 2.** (Deleted by amendment.)
3 **Sec. 3.** (Deleted by amendment.)
4 **Sec. 4.** Chapter 277A of NRS is hereby amended by adding
5 thereto a new section to read as follows:
6 ***1. In a county whose population is 700,000 or more, the***
7 ***commission shall establish a regional rapid transit authority. The***
8 ***membership of the regional rapid transit authority must consist of:***



1 (a) The general manager of the commission, who shall act as
2 chair of the authority;

3 (b) One member appointed by the board of county
4 commissioners;

5 (c) Three members, one from each of the three largest cities
6 within the county, who are appointed by the respective governing
7 bodies of each city;

8 (d) One member selected by the association of gaming
9 establishments whose membership collectively paid the most
10 gaming license fees to the State pursuant to NRS 463.370 in the
11 county in the preceding year;

12 (e) One member who is selected by the economic development
13 authority in the county;

14 (f) One member selected by the Department of Transportation;
15 and

16 (g) One member who has expertise in urban planning and
17 design or architecture selected by the Nevada Arts Council.

18 2. The regional rapid transit authority shall develop a plan
19 for the establishment of a regional rapid transit system:

20 (a) In cooperation with economic development, engineering,
21 planning and tourism interests in the county; and

22 (b) With the goal of quantifying the implications of
23 introducing an exclusive rapid transit system in identified
24 corridors in the county.

25 3. In carrying out its duties pursuant to subsection 2, the
26 regional rapid transit authority shall:

27 (a) Hold public meetings to, without limitation:

28 (1) Evaluate the need for and desirability of a regional
29 rapid transit system;

30 (2) Assess corridor and route feasibility and desirability;
31 and

32 (3) Review existing mass transit options to determine how
33 to incorporate such options into a regional rapid transit system;

34 (b) Undertake an analysis of various considerations involved
35 with introducing and implementing a regional rapid transit system
36 in the county, including, without limitation:

37 (1) An assessment of the available rapid transit
38 technologies, including, without limitation, technologies that use
39 solar power or other renewable energy sources to minimize or
40 eliminate the use of carbon-based fuels;

41 (2) An assessment of the opportunities, costs and
42 constraints of corridor options, including, without limitation:

43 (I) An examination and evaluation of existing rail
44 corridors and transit routes for inclusion in the regional rapid
45 transit system;



1 (II) An evaluation of potential sites for stations and
2 facilities for the regional rapid transit system; and

3 (III) Identification of locations in the county that would
4 benefit most from proximity to a regional rapid transit system,
5 including, without limitation, airports and existing or proposed
6 special event venues such as stadiums and racetracks;

7 (3) Estimates as to capital and operating costs;

8 (4) An assessment of potential ridership and passenger
9 demand;

10 (5) An assessment of the environmental impact;

11 (6) A potential project schedule; and

12 (7) An assessment of financing options and funding
13 sources, including, without limitation:

14 (I) Processes for securing federal funding; and

15 (II) The potential for voter approval for bonds to
16 support any portion of the regional rapid transit system.

17 4. On or before February 1 of each year, the regional rapid
18 transit authority shall submit a written report to the Director of the
19 Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the appropriate
20 committee or committees of the Legislature. The report must set
21 forth, without limitation:

22 (a) The activities and meetings of the authority;

23 (b) Any findings made by the authority regarding the analysis
24 required by subsection 3; and

25 (c) The plan or current draft of the plan developed by the
26 authority pursuant to subsection 2.

27 Sec. 5. The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any
28 additional expenses of a local government that are related to the
29 provisions of this act.

30 Sec. 6. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

