



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Committee Bill No. 5460

LCO No. 5951



Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION

Introduced by:
(TRA)

**AN ACT REQUIRING LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INCREASES RAILROAD
FARES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 13b-38h of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

3 (a) The Department of Transportation shall provide for changes in
4 fares for mass transportation by land in accordance with the provisions
5 of this section and shall not be required to conform to the procedures
6 in chapter 54.

7 (b) Prior to adopting any change in fares for mass transportation by
8 land, the department shall (1) give notice of the proposed fare change,
9 its amount and the date it is proposed to take effect by advertising, at
10 least once, in one or more newspapers having general circulation in all
11 areas of the state that may be affected by such change in fares [,] and
12 [(2)] in such notice, provide information on the time and place a public
13 hearing is to be held on such proposed fare change, [. Such] and (2) if
14 the proposed fare change is a fare increase, file a request for approval

15 of such fare increase in accordance with the provisions of subsection
16 (c) of this section. The notice of the proposed fare change shall be
17 posted at least fifteen days prior to such public hearing. The
18 department shall send a copy of such notice to the chairpersons and
19 ranking members of the joint standing committees of the General
20 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation and
21 [to] finance, revenue and bonding. A public hearing on the proposed
22 fare change shall be held at such time and place as will be convenient
23 for public attendance.

24 (c) If a proposed fare change is a fare increase, the department shall
25 file a request for approval of the proposed fare increase with the clerks
26 of the House of Representatives and the Senate. No proposed fare
27 increase shall become effective unless approved by the General
28 Assembly. The General Assembly may approve the proposed fare
29 increase by a majority vote of each house or may reject the proposed
30 fare increase by a majority vote of either house. If the General
31 Assembly is in session, the General Assembly shall vote to approve or
32 reject the proposed fare increase not later than thirty days after the
33 department files the request for approval with the clerks. If the General
34 Assembly is not in session when the request for approval is filed, the
35 clerks shall submit the proposed fare increase to the General Assembly
36 not later than ten days after the first day of the next regular session or
37 a special session called for such purpose. The proposed fare increase
38 shall be deemed rejected if the General Assembly fails to vote to
39 approve or reject such proposed fare increase not later than thirty days
40 after the department files the request for approval with the clerks.
41 Such thirty-day period shall not begin or expire unless the General
42 Assembly is in regular session. If the regular session adjourns prior to
43 such thirtieth day and the proposed fare increase has not been acted
44 upon, the request for approval shall be deemed filed on the first day of
45 the next regular session. For the purposes of this subsection, any
46 request for approval of a proposed fare increase filed with the clerks
47 within thirty days before the commencement of a regular session of the
48 General Assembly shall be deemed to be filed on the first day of such

49 session.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2019	13b-38h

Statement of Purpose:

To provide greater transparency when increasing railroad fare.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. DEVLIN, 134th Dist.; REP. LAVIELLE, 143rd Dist.

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