

Department of Planning and Budget 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB2596

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☒ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Ebbin

3. Committee: Senate Privileges and Elections

4. Title: **Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Compact.**

5. Summary: In October 2008, a federal rail-safety improvement bill was passed that included funding authorization for the Metro operated by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). The legislation authorized \$150 million in federal funding per year for 10 years for WMATA to purchase Metro rail cars and buses, if the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia each dedicate \$50 million per year to match the federal funding and certain federal oversight provisions that are added to the compact. In order to be eligible for the funding, the three jurisdictions must amend the governance agreement on WMATA to reflect the new local commitment and oversight changes.

The proposed bill would amend the WMATA compact relating to board membership, officers, and payments, pursuant to the new federal law. The bill would require that all payments made for the purposes of matching federal funds for capital and preventative maintenance be derived from a source of funding that is dedicated or earmarked under state or local law to match such federal funds.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8.

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: None.

8. Fiscal Implications: The amendments to the compact are required in order for WMATA to be eligible for the federal funding authorized by the federal legislation. Should such federal funding be available, Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia would need to match the \$150 million with \$50 million each.

The proposed legislation would require that the state make the matching payments from a dedicated or earmarked funding source as required by the federal law.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Transportation,
Department of Rail and Public Transportation

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: Identical to SB1511.

Date: 2/10/2009 dpb/smc

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cc: Secretary of Transportation