

SENATE BILL 630

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CF 9lr1715

By: **Senator Carter**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Transportation – Regional Transportation Authority Study**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the General Assembly to contract with a qualified
4 transportation entity to conduct a certain study on regional transportation
5 authorities; providing for the scope of the study; requiring the entity conducting the
6 study to report, on or before a certain date, its findings and recommendations to the
7 Governor and General Assembly; providing for the termination of this Act; and
8 generally relating to a study on regional transportation authorities.

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
10 That:

11 (a) The Maryland General Assembly may contract with a transportation
12 consultant, institution, agency, or private contractor, or any other qualified person, to
13 conduct a study of regional transportation authorities.

14 (b) The regional transportation authority study shall:

15 (1) define regional transportation authority;

16 (2) study regional transportation authorities in operation throughout the
17 United States;

18 (3) review the range of powers granted to regional transportation
19 authorities by legislatures, including powers to plan, design, finance, build, operate,
20 administer, and maintain regional transportation systems;

21 (4) review transit-oriented development strategies adopted by regional
22 transportation authorities;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(5) determine the geographical boundaries of a potential regional transportation authority that would operate in Maryland and surrounding areas;

(6) analyze the existing transportation agreements between states, cities, and counties within the boundaries of the potential regional transportation authority;

(7) analyze the existing transportation agreements between operators of transportation services in the geographical boundaries of the potential regional transportation authority to determine which services would be within the jurisdiction of the potential regional transportation authority;

(8) explore the options for financing transportation systems within the boundaries of the potential regional transportation authority, including funds from state and federal grants, taxes, bonds, licenses, fees and fares, tax-increment financing, and the sale or lease of real estate or other property;

(9) explore the options for governing the potential regional transportation authority by analyzing the governance models of other regional transportation authorities; and

(10) develop recommendations on the feasibility of creating, financing, and operating a regional transportation authority in Maryland and surrounding areas.

(c) On or before October 31, 2019, the entity contracted to conduct the study shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June 30, 2020, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.