

SENATE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Committee

April 8, 2026
Date

Committee on Transportation & Energy.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

SB26-150 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee of the Whole with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, page 7, lines 6 and 7, strike "(3)(c) and (3)(d)" and
2 substitute "(3)(c), (3)(d), and (3)(e)".

3 Page 7, strike lines 12 through 27 and substitute:

4 "(c) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2026, THE DISTRICT SHALL
5 CONTRACT WITH AN INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY ENTITY TO CONDUCT A
6 COMPREHENSIVE PARATRANSIT SERVICE STUDY AND SHALL SUBMIT THE
7 STUDY TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING,
8 AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION
9 AND ENERGY COMMITTEE. WITHIN NINETY DAYS OF COMPLETING THE
10 STUDY, THE DISTRICT SHALL PRESENT THE STUDY TO A JOINT MEETING OF
11 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING, AND LOCAL
12 GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION AND
13 ENERGY COMMITTEE. THE DISTRICT SHALL REQUIRE THAT THE
14 INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY ENTITY PROVIDE QUARTERLY UPDATES ON
15 THE PROGRESS OF THE STUDY TO THE BOARD. THE STUDY MUST INCLUDE:

16 (I) A NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF THE POPULATION, NEEDS, AND
17 SERVICE GAPS FOR RIDERS IN THE DISTRICT WITH DISABILITIES THAT
18 INCLUDES AN ANALYSIS OF RIDER-LEVEL AND TRIP-LEVEL DATA,
19 INCLUDING THE DISTRIBUTION OF TRIP FREQUENCY, IDENTIFICATION OF
20 HIGH-UTILIZATION RIDERS, CHANGES IN RIDERSHIP PATTERNS FOLLOWING
21 THE JANUARY 1, 2026, FARE AND SUBSIDY CHANGES, IMPACTS OF THOSE
22 CHANGES ON FREQUENT AND HIGH-NEED RIDERS, AND REDUCTION OF
23 ACCESS TO SERVICE DUE TO LOSS SERVICE OR ECONOMIC HARDSHIP FROM
24 FARE CHANGES;

25 (II) A COST-BENEFIT ASSESSMENT WITH LONG-TERM PROJECTIONS
26 BETWEEN COST REDUCTIONS AND SERVICE AVAILABILITY OR ACCESS OF

1 PARATRANSIT SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS FOR ACCESS-A-RIDE AND
2 ACCESS-ON-DEMAND, INCLUDING INTEGRATED, HYBRID, STAND-ALONE,
3 AND ALTERNATIVE SERVICE SCENARIOS, AND INCLUDING ANALYSIS OF
4 CHANGES TO FARE LEVELS, SUBSIDIES, AND SERVICE LIMITS. THE
5 ASSESSMENT MUST INCLUDE PEER AGENCY COMPARISONS AND USE
6 STANDARDIZED COST DEFINITIONS AND METHODOLOGY, ANALYSIS OF COST
7 PER TRIP AND PER RIDER, AND IDENTIFICATION OF KEY COST DRIVERS,
8 SUCH AS DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN FIXED AND VARIABLE COSTS;
9 (III) A DEFINITION OF MEASURABLE PERFORMANCE METRICS
10 RELATED TO ACCESS, RELIABILITY, EQUITY, AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS;"

11 Page 8, strike lines 1 through 6.

12 Page 8, before line 7 insert:

13 "(IV) AN ASSESSMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES TO COLLABORATE WITH
14 LOCAL AND REGIONAL PARTNERS TO ADDRESS SERVICE GAPS;

15 (V) ENGAGEMENT WITH PARATRANSIT USERS, RIDERS WITH
16 DISABILITIES, SERVICE PROVIDERS, AND OTHER KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND
17 DOCUMENTATION OF HOW STAKEHOLDER INPUT INFORMED FINDINGS;

18 (VI) AN ASSESSMENT OF SYSTEM PERFORMANCE, INCLUDING
19 RELIABILITY METRICS, TRIP DENIALS, WAIT TIMES, ON-TIME PERFORMANCE,
20 AND RIDER EXPERIENCE ACROSS SERVICE MODES, IDENTIFICATION OF ANY
21 CAPACITY CONSTRAINTS OR SERVICE LIMITATIONS, AND AN ASSESSMENT
22 OF INNOVATIVE, TECHNOLOGY-ENABLED SERVICE MODELS; AND

23 (VII) AN ASSESSMENT OF BARRIERS FOR PARATRANSIT RIDERS
24 AND RIDERS WITH DISABILITIES TO ACCESS A LOW-INCOME FARE DISCOUNT.

25 (d) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2027, THE DISTRICT SHALL
26 COMPLETE, ADOPT, AND BEGIN IMPLEMENTING AN ACCESSIBLE
27 TRANSPORTATION SERVICE PLAN INFORMED BY THE COMPREHENSIVE
28 PARATRANSIT SERVICE STUDY. THE DISTRICT SHALL PRESENT THE PLAN TO
29 A JOINT MEETING OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TRANSPORTATION,
30 HOUSING, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE
31 TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY COMMITTEE WITHIN NINETY DAYS OF
32 COMPLETING THE PLAN. THE PLAN MUST INCLUDE:

33 (I) A HOLISTIC VISION FOR PROVIDING APPROPRIATE AND
34 ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE TO RIDERS WITH DISABILITIES IN
35 THE DISTRICT;

36 (II) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OVERARCHING FRAMEWORK TO
37 GUIDE FUTURE PARATRANSIT DECISION-MAKING, INCLUDING MEASURABLE
38 METRICS OF PERFORMANCE IN ACCESS, RELIABILITY, EQUITY, AND
39 COST-EFFECTIVENESS;

40 (III) A FRAMEWORK FOR FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY INFORMED BY
41 CONSIDERATIONS OF LONG-TERM COST PROJECTIONS, TRADEOFFS BETWEEN

1 SERVICES, AND PEER AGENCY COMPARISONS;
2 (IV) A FRAMEWORK FOR THE USE OF ANY INNOVATIVE AND
3 TECHNOLOGY-ENABLED SERVICE MODELS; AND
4 (V) AN IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK WITH TIMELINES, PRIORITY
5 ACTIONS, REPORTING ON IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS."

6 Page 8, line 7, strike "(d)" and substitute "(e)".

7 Page 8, line 16, after "(1)(e)," add "(1)(f),".

8 Page 10, after line 12 insert:

9 "(f) ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF EACH YEAR THAT THE
10 INDEPENDENT LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION MEETS TO
11 APPORTION THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH
12 SUBSECTION (1)(e) OF THIS SECTION, THE DISTRICT SHALL PROVIDE DATA
13 REGARDING THE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF RIDERSHIP AND ANY
14 OTHER DISTRICT RIDERSHIP INFORMATION NEEDED TO CREATE DIRECTOR
15 DISTRICTS TO THE INDEPENDENT LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING
16 COMMISSION."

17 Page 10, line 26, strike "LIMIT." and substitute "LIMIT, BUT A MEMBER
18 SHALL NOT SERVE MORE THAN EIGHT TOTAL YEARS ON THE BOARD. A
19 TERM THAT A MEMBER SERVED ON THE BOARD PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2029,
20 COUNTS TOWARD THAT MEMBER'S TWO-TERM LIMIT."

21 Page 15, line 18, after "SHALL" insert "REPRESENT DIVERSE GEOGRAPHIC
22 AREAS OF THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING SUBURBAN COUNTIES, AND SHALL".

23 Page 16, line 2, strike "SUCH AS COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY" and
24 substitute "AS THAT TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION 24-4-109 (2)(b)(II)".

25 Page 16, strike lines 3 and 4.

26 Page 16, line 8, strike "MEMBERS." and substitute "MEMBERS, AND SHALL
27 ENSURE THAT THE APPOINTED MEMBERS REPRESENT DIVERSE GEOGRAPHIC
28 AREAS OF THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING SUBURBAN COUNTIES."

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