

STATE TRUNK LINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM (EXCERPT)
Act 51 of 1951

247.660e Comprehensive transportation fund; appropriation and expenditure; order of priority; capital grants; instructions; submission of local transportation program to department; department transportation program; proposed state transportation program; action by commission; approval of projects; agreement; approval of multiyear public transportation program; grant-in-aid instrument; audits; source of funds for payment of eligible capital projects, local bus new services, and intercity passenger operating assistance projects; demand actuated service; plan; exceptions; annual report; appropriation; application, receipt, and disbursement of funds.

Sec. 10e. (1) The comprehensive transportation fund is appropriated for each fiscal year in the following order of priority.

(2) The first priority is to pay, but only from money restricted as to use by section 9 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, the principal and interest on bonds or notes issued under section 18b for comprehensive transportation purposes as defined by law. A sufficient portion of the comprehensive transportation fund is irrevocably appropriated to pay, when due, the principal and interest on those bonds and notes.

(3) After making or setting aside payments required by subsection (2), the second priority of the comprehensive transportation fund is the payment of the department's cost in administering the comprehensive transportation fund. The amount to be expended pursuant to this subsection shall not exceed the costs appropriated for the administration of the fund in the fiscal year ending September 30, 1987, as adjusted annually on October 1, by the change for the preceding 12 months in the Detroit consumer price index for urban wage earners and shall be appropriated annually by the legislature.

(4) After making or setting aside payments required by subsections (2) and (3), the balance of the comprehensive transportation fund shall be expended each fiscal year as appropriated annually by the legislature pursuant to the state transportation program approved by the commission as follows:

(a) The third priority shall be the payment of operating grants to eligible authorities and eligible governmental agencies according to the following formulations and subject to the following requirements:

(i) For the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for each fiscal year thereafter, each eligible authority and eligible governmental agency that provides public transportation services in urbanized areas under 49 USC 5307, with a Michigan population greater than 100,000 shall receive a grant of up to 50% of their eligible operating expenses as defined by the department.

(ii) For the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and each fiscal year thereafter, each eligible authority and eligible governmental agency that provides public transportation services in urbanized areas with a Michigan population less than or equal to 100,000 and nonurbanized areas under 49 USC 5311, shall receive a grant of up to 60% of their eligible operating expenses as defined by the department. For purposes of receiving a grant under this subparagraph in nonurbanized areas, eligible costs of services provided by water vehicle shall be reimbursed at not less than 50% of the portion of the costs not eligible for reimbursement by the federal government.

(iii) Funds shall not be distributed to an eligible authority or eligible governmental agency under this act unless the eligible authority or eligible governmental agency provides or agrees to provide preferential fares for public transportation services to persons 65 years of age or over or persons with disabilities riding in off peak periods of service. As used in this section, "person with disabilities" means an individual with a disability as that term is defined in 61 FR 56424 (November 1, 1996) and 49 CFR part 27. The preferential fares shall not be higher than 50% of the regular 1-way single fare.

(iv) Eligible authorities and eligible governmental agencies shall not engage in charter service using vehicles, facilities, or equipment funded under this act except on an incidental basis as defined by 49 CFR part 604.

(v) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, each eligible authority and eligible governmental agency shall receive a distribution from the comprehensive transportation fund not less than the distribution received for eligible operating expenses for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997. Beginning with the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 and each fiscal year thereafter, each eligible authority and eligible governmental agency shall receive a distribution from the comprehensive transportation fund for eligible operating expenses not less than the distribution received for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997. As it relates to this subsection the ratio between comprehensive transportation funds and local funds in the fiscal year ending September 30, 1989 shall be maintained for all

fiscal years by the eligible authority and eligible governmental agency. Reductions in this ratio shall require a proportionate reduction in the comprehensive transportation funds provided for any fiscal year.

(vi) Each eligible authority and eligible governmental agency receiving comprehensive transportation funds shall prepare and submit to the department a quarterly report of the progress made in carrying out its local transportation program within 40 days after the end of each fiscal year quarter. The progress report shall be made on forms authorized by the United States department of transportation under the provisions of the surface transportation and uniform relocation assistance act of 1987, Public Law 100-17, 101 Stat. 132.

(vii) The department shall periodically adjust or redistribute comprehensive transportation funds previously distributed under this subdivision.

(b) For the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and each fiscal year thereafter, not less than 10% shall be distributed by the department for intercity passenger and intercity freight transportation purposes.

(c) For the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and each fiscal year thereafter, funds remaining in the fund after payment of the amounts required by subdivisions (a) and (b) shall be distributed by the department for public transportation purposes. For the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and each fiscal year thereafter, funds shall be made available to match all projects for eligible authorities and eligible governmental agencies that are approved for federal funding as provided by federal law and for which an approved transportation improvement program (TIP) and state transportation improvement plan (STIP) exist. Funds distributed under this subdivision shall be expended pursuant to specific line item appropriation for, but are not limited to, the following public transportation purposes:

(i) The specialized services assistance program. The specialized services assistance program shall be funded with not less than \$3,600,100.00 from funds distributed under this subdivision. Funds shall be distributed according to guidelines developed by the department based upon the following considerations:

(A) Proposals for coordinated specialized services assistance funding shall be developed jointly between existing eligible authorities or eligible governmental agencies that provide public transportation services and the area agencies on aging or any other organization representing specialized services interests, as defined in this subdivision. Plans shall be reviewed and approved by the bureau of urban and public transportation of the department. Upon approval, the department shall release the funds to the eligible authority or eligible governmental agency which shall then allocate the funds to the area agency on aging or any other organization representing specialized services interests, as defined in this subdivision for the purchase of services as approved in the plan by the department.

(B) If an eligible authority or eligible governmental agency does not exist to provide public transportation service in a county, coordinated proposals for specialized services assistance funding may be submitted by the area agency on aging or any other organization representing specialized services interests, as defined in this subdivision. The proposals shall be reviewed and approved by the bureau of urban and public transportation of the department. Upon approval, the department shall release the funds to the area agency on aging or any other organization representing specialized services interests, as defined in this subdivision for the purchase of services as approved in the plan by the department.

(C) For the purposes of this program, "specialized services" means public transportation primarily designed for persons with disabilities or persons who are 65 years of age or older.

(ii) Local bus capital. For the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998 and each fiscal year thereafter, not less than \$8,000,000.00 will be distributed for either matching federal funds for local bus capital or 100% capital projects for eligible authorities and eligible governmental agencies that are not eligible to receive federal capital formula funds under section 5307 of the federal intermodal surface transportation efficiency act, Public Law 102-240, or any successor act.

(iii) Local bus new services.

(iv) Not less than \$2,000,000.00 in each fiscal year for the credit program established under section 107.

(v) Public transportation development.

(vi) Other public transportation programs approved by the commission.

(d) The unappropriated and unencumbered balance of the comprehensive transportation fund lapses at the end of each fiscal year and reverts to the comprehensive transportation fund for appropriation in the following fiscal year.

(5) Eligible authorities and eligible governmental agencies shall receive capital grants each fiscal year by the annual process described in this section. Amounts received by an eligible authority or eligible governmental agency pursuant to this subsection shall be expended by that authority or agency solely for capital projects that have been approved by the state transportation commission. Any funds approved by distribution to an eligible authority or eligible governmental agency pursuant to this section that have not been encumbered by that agency or authority for an approved capital project by the end of the following fiscal year in which the funds were approved shall not be expended by the authority or agency and be available for

distribution from the comprehensive transportation fund for the purposes described in this section.

(6) The department, in carrying out the policy of the state transportation commission, shall annually prepare and distribute by December 1, instructions to eligible governmental agencies, eligible authorities, and intercity carriers to enable the preparation of a local transportation program. Eligible governmental agencies, eligible authorities, and intercity carriers shall give public notice of their intent to apply for money in the comprehensive transportation fund to the residents of the counties, townships, villages, and cities affected by the local transportation program and shall make their application available for a period of 30 days. All comments received by the eligible governmental agency, eligible authority, or intercity carrier shall be transmitted to the department.

(7) On or before March 1 of each year, each intercity carrier, eligible authority, and eligible governmental agency shall submit to the department its local transportation program for the next succeeding fiscal year. The format for each local transportation program shall be as prescribed by the federal transportation improvement program insofar as practical and shall include project descriptions, funding sources, and justification for each line item, and summary budgets based on distributions anticipated under subsection (4). The program shall contain at a minimum the contemplated routes, hours of service, estimated transit vehicle miles, costs of public transportation services, and projected capital improvements or projects as exclusively determined by the eligible authority or eligible governmental agency. The costs of service and capital improvements or projects shall be in sufficient detail to permit the department to evaluate and approve the annual public transportation program. Determination of individual projects to be included in the local transportation programs other than those provided in this subsection shall be made by the governing body of the eligible authority or eligible governmental agency.

(8) On or before March 1 of each year, the department shall prepare and file for public inspection and review the department transportation program. The department transportation program shall be prepared on similar format to the local transportation programs, and shall include a summary description of projects, with funding sources and project justifications for each line item for the fiscal year immediately succeeding the fiscal year in which the program is submitted. In addition, the department transportation program shall include summary, nondetailed budget and project descriptions and justifications excluding projects contained in a local transportation program.

(9) On or before April 1 of each year, the department shall prepare and file with the commission the proposed state transportation program for the next succeeding fiscal year. The proposed state transportation program shall contain the local transportation programs of each intercity carrier, eligible authority and eligible governmental agency, the department transportation program, and the programs for the expenditure of the state trunk line fund as they may have been supplemented, amended, or modified since their original filing. The state transportation program shall include the estimated amount of money in the funds described in this subsection by revenue source, project justifications, project descriptions funding sources, and budget summaries.

(10) On or before May 1 of each year, the state transportation commission shall act on the state transportation program for the fiscal year commencing on the following October 1. In considering approval of the proposed projects of each intercity carrier, eligible authority, or eligible governmental agency, other than projects that are to be funded pursuant to subsection (5), the state transportation commission shall consider whether the projects comply with state law, are within funds allocated in this section, whether they may be funded within the approved budgets, whether there are intercity carriers, eligible authorities, and eligible governmental agencies responsible to implement the projects, and the recommendations of the department on individual projects. Upon making those determinations, the state transportation commission shall approve the projects which best meet the criteria of this subsection.

(11) By October 1, the department and each intercity carrier, eligible authority, or eligible governmental agency shall enter into a contractual agreement or standardized grant memorandum of agreement, which may cover 1 or more projects to be made from this section in the applicable fiscal year to the intercity carrier, eligible authority, or eligible governmental agency from the comprehensive transportation fund.

(12) After a multiyear public transportation program is approved by the state transportation commission, the department may enter into a grant-in-aid instrument with an eligible authority, intercity carrier, or eligible governmental agency obligating the state to a minimum level of funding for approved projects to be available over the multiyear period of the program. This obligation shall be binding upon the department as long as the provisions and conditions of the state transportation commission approved program are carried out as agreed.

(13) Contracts and grant memorandum agreements may be audited by the state transportation commission's office of commission audits using rules promulgated by the United States general accounting office and the terms and conditions of the respective contracts and agreements. Third party agreements are subject to the review and approval of the department.

(14) Funds distributed by the department may pay 100% of the portion of the cost not eligible for reimbursement by the federal government for eligible capital projects authorized by the state transportation commission using comprehensive transportation funds or the proceeds of notes and bonds issued under section 18b. Priority for funding obligation shall be given to capital projects for which federal funds have been authorized.

(15) All approved local bus new services initiated by eligible authorities and eligible governmental agencies not in their fourth year or beyond of funding on October 1, 1988, shall be funded from subsection (4)(c)(iii). Local bus new services shall be funded under subsection (4)(c)(iii) in the following percentages of eligible operating expenses as determined by the department:

(a) Startup 100%.

(b) First year 90%.

(c) Second year 80%.

(d) Third year 70%.

(e) Fourth year and each year thereafter, as determined by and from funds provided under subsection (4)(a). The balance of eligible operating expenses shall be met from local revenue sources including farebox. The department shall pay up to 100% of eligible capital expenses during the startup and first 3 years of service, after the third year, the department shall participate in eligible capital expenses in the same percentage as for other eligible authorities and eligible governmental agencies. For the purposes of this subsection, eligible operating and capital expenses means those expenses determined by the department as applicable to existing eligible authorities and eligible governmental agencies. The department shall prioritize annually all requests for comprehensive transportation funds to institute new services under this subsection. First priority shall be given to eligible authorities and eligible governmental agencies who have not completed their first 3 years of service by October 1, 1998. New services initiated by eligible authorities and eligible governmental agencies under this subsection shall meet all of the requirements of section 10.

(16) The department shall pay up to 80% of the portion of the cost not eligible for reimbursement by the federal government for intercity passenger operating assistance projects authorized by the commission for the first 2 years of new services. For the third year, eligible costs shall be reimbursed at up to 60% of the portion of the cost not eligible for reimbursement by the federal government. After the third year, eligible costs shall be reimbursed at up to 50% of the portion of the cost not eligible for reimbursement by the federal government. Eligible costs of services provided as of September 30, 1981, shall be reimbursed at up to 50% of the portion of the cost not eligible for reimbursement by the federal government. However, the amount of funds from the comprehensive transportation fund when added to federal funds and local funds shall not exceed the total operating assistance project cost.

(17) A vehicle purchased, leased, or rented after November 15, 1976, by an eligible authority or eligible governmental agency with funds made available under this act and not already committed under a contract in existence on November 15, 1976, shall not be used to provide service on a fixed schedule and fixed route for which a passenger fee is charged unless the vehicle is accessible to a person using a wheelchair from a roadway level or curb level, and has accommodations in which 1 or more wheelchairs can be secured.

(18) A vehicle used to provide demand actuated service shall not be purchased, leased, or rented by an eligible authority or eligible governmental agency after October 1, 1978, with funds made available under this act unless the eligible authority or eligible governmental agency has submitted a plan to the department describing the service to be provided by the demand actuated service to persons 65 years of age or older and persons with disabilities within the applicable service area and that plan has been approved by the department. The department shall approve the plan as submitted or modified or shall reject the plan within 60 days after the plan is submitted. A plan that describes the service to be provided by the demand actuated service shall not be approved by the department unless that plan provides the following:

(a) That demand actuated service will be provided to persons 65 years of age or older and persons with disabilities residing in the entire service area subject to the plan.

(b) That as a minimum, demand actuated service will be provided to persons 65 years of age or older and persons with disabilities during the same hours as service is provided to all other persons in the service area subject to the plan.

(c) That the average time period required for demand actuated service to persons 65 years of age or older and persons with disabilities from the initiation of a service request to arrival at the destination is equal to the average time period required for demand actuated service provided to all other persons in the service area subject to the plan.

(d) That the eligible authority or eligible governmental agency submitting the plan has established a local advisory council with not less than 50% of its membership representing persons 65 years of age or older and persons with disabilities within the service area subject to the plan and that the local advisory council has had

an opportunity to review and comment upon the plan before its submission to the department. Each eligible authority or eligible governmental agency jointly with the area agency on aging shall approve at least 1 or the equivalent of 12% of the membership of the local advisory council. Each advisory council comment shall be included in the plan when submitted to the department.

(19) Notwithstanding subsection (18), a plan required by subsection (18) that is not approved or rejected by the department within 60 days after submission shall be considered approved as submitted.

(20) Subsections (17), (18), and (19) shall not apply to vehicles or facilities used to transport persons by rail, air, or water or to vehicles of common carriers licensed by the department.

(21) After January 1, 1979, the department shall submit an annual report to the legislature detailing the service provided in the prior year for persons 65 years of age or older and persons with disabilities by fixed route service and demand actuated service. This report shall include a record of passenger usage and shall be submitted by April 1 of each year.

(22) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, for each fiscal year that begins after September 30, 2009, the governor and the state budget director shall include in the annual budget submitted to the legislature for the ensuing fiscal period under section 18 of article V of the state constitution of 1963 an appropriation from a fund or funds other than the comprehensive transportation fund to a street railway organized under the nonprofit street railway act, 1867 PA 35, MCL 472.1 to 472.27, of a sum equal to the difference between the annual operating expenses of the street railway and revenue received by the street railway during the same annual period, including, but not limited to, tax increment revenues received by the street railway under section 23 of the nonprofit street railway act, 1867 PA 35, MCL 472.23. The appropriation submitted in the budget under this section shall not exceed 8% of the total private investment in the street railway as determined by the department. A street railway is not an eligible authority or eligible governmental agency for purposes of subdivision (4)(a).

(23) For each eligible authority and each eligible governmental agency within a public transit region, a regional transit authority shall apply for, receive, and disburse funds under section 8 of the regional transit authority act.

History: Add. 1976, Act 297, Eff. Nov. 15, 1976;—Am. 1978, Act 140, Imd. Eff. May 11, 1978;—Am. 1978, Act 393, Imd. Eff. Aug. 1, 1978;—Am. 1978, Act 444, Imd. Eff. Oct. 10, 1978;—Am. 1979, Act 58, Imd. Eff. July 18, 1979;—Am. 1982, Act 438, Eff. Jan. 1, 1983;—Am. 1984, Act 255, Imd. Eff. Nov. 30, 1984;—Am. 1986, Act 254, Imd. Eff. Dec. 9, 1986;—Am. 1987, Act 234, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 1987;—Am. 1990, Act 73, Imd. Eff. May 17, 1990;—Am. 1997, Act 79, Eff. July 28, 1997;—Am. 1998, Act 87, Imd. Eff. May 13, 1998;—Am. 2008, Act 487, Imd. Eff. Jan. 12, 2009;—Am. 2012, Act 391, Imd. Eff. Dec. 19, 2012.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 247.660e, pertaining to priorities in use of general transportation fund, was repealed by Act 296 of 1976.

Popular name: McNitt Act

Popular name: Michigan Transportation Fund Act