

By: Hill

H.B. No. 2987

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to use of a portion of the money in the Texas Mobility Fund
3 for mass transit projects.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter M, Chapter 201, Transportation Code,
6 is amended by adding Section 201.948 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 201.948. MASS TRANSIT GRANTS. (a) In this section,
8 "mass transit" means the transportation of passengers and
9 hand-carried packages or baggage of a passenger by bus, light rail,
10 or commuter rail.

11 (b) The comptroller shall use the money dedicated to mass
12 transit projects and operations by Section 49-k(c-1), Article III,
13 Texas Constitution, to make grants to municipalities to finance
14 mass transit projects that the comptroller determines will best
15 expand and improve mass transit services available to residents of
16 the state. A municipality receiving a grant may use the money
17 directly or deliver the money to another governmental entity,
18 including a transit authority, that provides mass transit services
19 within the municipal boundaries of the municipality, regardless of
20 whether the projects of the other entity are within those
21 boundaries. Money from a grant may be used only to finance capital
22 costs of a project, including debt service for debt financing of
23 capital costs, and may not be used:

24 (1) to pay operating costs; or

1 (2) to finance a project of a regional mobility
2 authority.

3 (c) To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a
4 municipality must:

5 (1) apply to the comptroller on a form prescribed by
6 the comptroller;

7 (2) commit to dedicate an amount of its own money equal
8 to the amount of grant sought to fund the project for which the
9 grant is sought; and

10 (3) provide the comptroller any information the
11 comptroller requests to determine whether the grant should be made.

12 (d) The comptroller may adopt rules to administer this
13 section. Notwithstanding Section 201.942, the comptroller shall
14 administer the grant program created by this section, including
15 determination of grant recipients, the amount and the manner of
16 delivery of a grant, conditions on use of the grant, and other
17 matters necessary to the operation of the grant program.

18 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect on the date on which the
19 constitutional amendment proposed by the 80th Legislature, Regular
20 Session, 2007, providing for use of a portion of the money in the
21 Texas Mobility Fund for mass transit projects takes effect. If that
22 amendment is not approved by the voters, this Act has no effect.