



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 507**

*February Session, 2004*

Substitute House Bill No. 5233

*House of Representatives, April 7, 2004*

The Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding reported through REP. STILLMAN of the 38th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY BOARD.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2004*) As used in sections 1 to 8, inclusive,  
2 of this act:

3 (1) "Transportation Strategy Board" means the board created under  
4 section 13b-57e of the general statutes, as amended.

5 (2) "TSB project account" means the account created under section  
6 113 of public act 03-1 of the June 30 special session, as amended by this  
7 act.

8 (3) "Section 16 Project" means a project originally undertaken by the  
9 Transportation Strategy Board pursuant to section 16 of public act 01-5  
10 of the June special session.

11 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2004*) During the fiscal year ending June 30,

12 2005, the sum of \$150,000 shall be transferred from the TSB project  
13 account to the Department of Transportation to support the  
14 implementation of the increased motorist assistance services  
15 recommended by the Transportation Strategy Board.

16 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2004*) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
17 public act 03-4 of the June 30 special session, during the fiscal year  
18 ending June 30, 2005, the sum of \$60,000 may, with the approval of the  
19 Transportation Strategy Board, be expended from the TSB project  
20 account to support the preparation and distribution of highway  
21 diversion plans as recommended by said board.

22 Sec. 4. (*Effective July 1, 2004*) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
23 public act 03-4 of the June 30 special session, during the fiscal year  
24 ending June 30, 2005, an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 may, with  
25 the approval of the Transportation Strategy Board, be expended from  
26 the TSB project account to support the continuation of the following  
27 TSB projects: Fairfield County Inter-Regional Bus Services; New Haven  
28 Line Commuter Connection; Danbury Area Feeder Bus Service;  
29 Shoreline East Service extension; Southeast Connecticut Jobs Access-  
30 Dial-A-Ride; and Hartford Area Express Bus Service.

31 (b) The Transportation Strategy Board shall evaluate each of the  
32 projects identified in subsection (a) of this section and shall submit its  
33 findings and recommendations concerning the continued funding of  
34 such programs to the Governor and the General Assembly, in  
35 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, not later than  
36 January 1, 2005.

37 Sec. 5. (*Effective July 1, 2004*) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
38 public act 03-4 of the June 30 special session, during the fiscal year  
39 ending June 30, 2005, an amount not to exceed \$600,000 may be  
40 expended from the TSB project account to support the continuation of  
41 the state operating assistance to Tweed-New Haven Airport, provided:  
42 (1) The city of New Haven continues to provide at least its current  
43 level of operating subsidy to the airport; and (2) no such funds are  
44 expended to provide, directly or indirectly, subsidies or financial

45 assistance to any air carrier.

46 Sec. 6. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
47 public act 03-4 of the June 30 special session, during the fiscal year  
48 ending June 30, 2004, an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 may, with  
49 the approval of the Transportation Strategy Board, be expended from  
50 the TSB project account for expenses incurred by the Department of  
51 Transportation in connection with the following Section 16 Projects:  
52 Deduct-A-Ride Program; Southeast Corridor Tourism Service-Single  
53 Ticket Fare Structure; Capitol Region Council of Governments-New  
54 Britain Busway; and Southeast Connecticut Jobs Access-Dial-A-Ride.

55 Sec. 7. (*Effective July 1, 2004*) During the fiscal year ending June 30,  
56 2005, up to \$640,000 shall be transferred from the TSB project account  
57 to the Office of Policy and Management to fund the grant to regional  
58 agencies under section 4-124q of the general statutes.

59 Sec. 8. (*Effective July 1, 2004*) (a) The unexpended balance of funds  
60 appropriated to the Department of Transportation for the  
61 Transportation Strategy Board in subsection (a) of section 47 of special  
62 act 01-1 of the June special session, and carried forward in subsection  
63 (2) of subsection (aa) of section 47 of special act 01-1 of the June special  
64 session, as amended by section 2 of special act 01-1 of the November 15  
65 special session, section 16 of public act 02-1 of the May 9 special  
66 session, subsection (a) of section 42 of public act 03-1 of the June 30  
67 special session, and section 36 of public act 03-4 of the June 30 special  
68 session, shall not lapse on June 30, 2004, and such funds shall continue  
69 to be available for the programs and purposes of the Transportation  
70 Strategy Board during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005.

71 Sec. 9. Section 113 of public act 03-1 of the June 30 special session is  
72 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
73 *passage*):

74 (a) There shall be a Transportation Strategy Board projects account,  
75 which shall be a nonlapsing account within the Special Transportation  
76 Fund.

77 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, five million dollars of  
78 the moneys received or collected by the state or any officer thereof on  
79 account of, or derived from, the incremental revenues received  
80 pursuant to section 14-50a, as amended, shall be deposited into the  
81 account established under subsection (a) of this section and shall be  
82 used to provide funding for the projects and purposes of the  
83 Transportation Strategy Board.

84 (c) On and after July 1, [2005] 2004, all moneys received or collected  
85 by the state or any officer thereof on account of, or derived from, one-  
86 half of the incremental revenues received pursuant to section 14-50a, as  
87 amended, shall be deposited into the account established under  
88 subsection (a) of this section and shall be used to provide funding for  
89 the projects and purposes of the Transportation Strategy Board.

90 Sec. 10. Section 6 of public act 03-4 of the June 30 special session is  
91 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
92 *passage*):

93 On or before January 1, 2004, the Commissioner of Transportation,  
94 in consultation with the Department of Public Safety and the  
95 Department of Motor Vehicles, shall establish a program to implement  
96 regularly scheduled and enforced hours of operation for weigh  
97 stations. Not later than October 1, [2003] 2004, and annually thereafter,  
98 the commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-  
99 4a, on the planned program to the joint standing committee of the  
100 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
101 transportation.

102 Sec. 11. Section 36 of public act 03-4 of the June 30 special session is  
103 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
104 *passage*):

105 (a) The [sum of \$10,300,000] balance carried forward pursuant to  
106 subsection (a) of section 42 of public act 03-1 of the June 30 special  
107 session shall be expended as follows: East Haven Road and Sidewalk  
108 Improvement Aid, \$150,000; Fairfield County Interregional Services,

109 \$900,000; New Haven Line Commuter Connection, \$320,000; Danbury  
110 Area Feeder Bus Service - Harlem Line, \$200,000; Expanded Hartford  
111 Area Express Bus Service, \$750,000; Shoreline East Service through  
112 New Haven - Bridgeport - Stamford, \$1,700,000 [;] and Continuation of  
113 State Operating Subsidy for Tweed-New Haven Airport, \$600,000. [;  
114 Transportation Strategy Board projects account, \$3,700,000.] The  
115 balance of such funds shall be deposited in the Transportation Strategy  
116 Board projects account established by section 113 of public act 03-1 of  
117 the June 30 special session, as amended by this act.

118 (b) The funds for the State Operating Subsidy for Tweed-New  
119 Haven Airport in subsection (a) of this section shall be made available  
120 only if the city of New Haven continues its current level of operating  
121 subsidy.

122 Sec. 12. Section 14-41 of the general statutes, as amended by section  
123 6 of public act 03-171, section 34 of public act 03-3 of the June 30 special  
124 session and section 6 of public act 04-4, is repealed and the following is  
125 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2004*):

126 (a) Except as provided in section 14-41a, as amended by this act,  
127 each motor vehicle operator's license shall be renewed every six years  
128 or every four years on the date of the operator's birthday in accordance  
129 with a schedule to be established by the commissioner. On and after  
130 July 1, 2005, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall screen the  
131 vision of each motor vehicle operator prior to every other renewal of  
132 the operator's license of such operator in accordance with a schedule  
133 adopted by the commissioner. Such screening requirement shall apply  
134 to every other renewal following the initial screening. In lieu of the  
135 vision screening by the commissioner, such operator may submit the  
136 results of a vision screening conducted by a licensed health care  
137 professional qualified to conduct such screening on a form prescribed  
138 by the commissioner during the twelve months preceding such  
139 renewal. No motor vehicle operator's license may be renewed unless  
140 the operator passes such vision screening. The commissioner shall  
141 adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to

142 implement the provisions of this subsection relative to the  
143 administration of vision screening.

144 (b) An original operator's license shall expire within a period not  
145 exceeding six years following the date of the operator's next birthday.  
146 The fee for such original license shall be computed at the rate of [forty-  
147 three] forty-four dollars for a four-year license, [sixty-five] sixty-six  
148 dollars for a six-year license and eleven dollars per year for any part of  
149 a year thereof.

150 (c) The commissioner shall, at least fifteen days before the date on  
151 which each motor vehicle operator's license expires, notify the operator  
152 of the expiration date. Any previously licensed operator who operates  
153 a motor vehicle within sixty days after the expiration date of the  
154 operator's license without obtaining a renewal of the license shall be  
155 deemed to have failed to renew a motor vehicle operator's license and  
156 shall be fined in accordance with the amount designated for the  
157 infraction of failure to renew a motor vehicle operator's license. Any  
158 operator so charged shall not be prosecuted under section 14-36, as  
159 amended, for the same act constituting a violation under this section  
160 but section 14-36, as amended, shall apply after the sixty-day period.

161 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1-3a, if the expiration  
162 date of any motor vehicle operator's license or any public passenger  
163 transportation permit falls on any day when offices of the  
164 commissioner are closed for business or are open for less than a full  
165 business day, the license or permit shall be deemed valid until  
166 midnight of the next day on which offices of the commissioner are  
167 open for a full day of business.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>



The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 05 \$	FY 06 \$
Transportation, Dept.	TF - Revenue Gain (TSB Account)	400,000	400,000

Note: TF=Transportation Fund TSB Account = Transportation Strategy Board Projects Account

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill is anticipated to result in a revenue gain of \$400,000 per year to the Transportation Strategy Board (TSB) projects account as a result of increasing various drivers' license fees.

The bill increases driver's license fees for the four-year license from \$43 to \$44 and for the six-year license from \$63 to \$66. It also sets the fee for any single year or part of a year driver's license to \$11.

The remaining provisions of the bill have no fiscal impact since they redirect existing TSB funds.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

sHB 5233

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY BOARD****SUMMARY:**

This bill:

1. increases the fee for an original issue driver's license from \$1 per month with a maximum of \$4 for any six-month period, plus the sum of \$5.25, to \$44 for a four-year license, \$66 for a six-year license, and \$11 for any single year or part of a year (for example, the fee for an original license issued for six years would increase from \$53.25 to \$66);
2. accelerates, to July 1, 2004 from July 1, 2005, the transfer of one-half of the incremental revenues derived from fee increases on various motor vehicle documents, records, and record searches made by PA 03-1, June 30 Special Session to the Transportation Strategy Board (TSB) project account;
3. transfers \$150,000 during FY 2004-05 from the TSB project account to the Department of Transportation (DOT) to support implementation of the increased motorist assistance services recommended by the TSB;
4. authorizes spending \$60,000 from the TSB account during FY 2004-05, with its approval, to support the preparation and distribution of highway diversion plans recommended by the TSB;
5. authorizes spending up to \$5,000,000 from the TSB project account in FY 2004-05, with its approval, for continuing the TSB's Fairfield County Inter-Regional Bus Service, New Haven Line Commuter Connection, Danbury Area Feeder Bus Service, Shoreline East Service extension, Southeast Connecticut Jobs Access-Dial-A-Ride, and Hartford Area Express Bus Service projects. (The TSB must evaluate each of these projects and submit its findings and recommendations to the governor and legislature by January 1, 2005);
6. authorizes spending up to \$600,000 to be spent from the TSB project account during FY 2004-05 to support continuing state operating assistance to Tweed-New Haven Airport, provided New Haven continues at least its current level of operating subsidy to the

- airport and no such funds are expended to provide either direct or indirect subsidies or financial assistance to any carrier;
7. authorizes up to \$2,000,000 to be spent during FY 2003-04 from the TSB project account, with its approval, for DOT expenses incurred in connection with these TSB "Section 16" projects—the Deduct-a-Ride Program, Southeast Corridor Tourism Service-Single Ticket Fare Structure, Capitol Region Council of Governments-New Britain Busway, and the Southeast Connecticut Jobs Access-Dial-A-Ride;
  8. requires up to \$640,000 to be transferred during FY 2004-05 from the TSB project account to the Office of Policy and Management to fund the grant to regional planning agencies, councils of governments, and councils of elected officials;
  9. carries forward to FY 2004-05 any unexpended balance of funds appropriated to the DOT for the TSB in 2001, 2002, and 2003 legislative acts;
  10. requires the balance of funds carried forward for various projects and expenditure amounts identified in § 36 of PA 03-4, June Special Session for TSB projects to be deposited in the TSB projects account; and
  11. gives the DOT commissioner until October 1, 2004 instead of October 1, 2003, to submit to the Transportation Committee the required annual report on the program it must establish to implement regularly scheduled and enforced hours of operation for the state's weigh stations.

The bill increases the fee only for original issue driver's licenses. The fee for license renewals was increased by PA 03-4, June Special Session.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2004, except the \$2 million authorization for Section 16 projects, the accelerated deposit of incremental revenues into the TSB projects account, the transfer of the balance of carried forward funds for previously identified projects into the TSB account, and the date change for the DOT report on its program for weigh station operations are effective upon passage

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Section 16 Projects***

Section 16 projects are a group of programs and projects that were identified as priorities in the original TSB legislation (section 16 of PA

01-5, June Special Session) for use of certain funds that were made available to the TSB for implementation of initiatives that would meet certain needs it identified in its initial transportation strategy.

**TSB Project Account**

The TSB project account was created by PA 03-4, June Special Session as the repository for certain motor vehicle-related fee increases, known as “incremental revenues,” that were made available to the TSB to fund several TSB strategy projects identified in the legislation as priority projects.

**Related Act**

PA 04-4 (section 6) increases the fee for original issue driver’s licenses to \$43 for a four-year license, \$65 for a six-year license, and \$11 per year or any part of a year. It also increases the fee for a two-year license issued to someone age 65 or older from \$19 to \$21 (section 7).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference  
Yea 27 Nay 0

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute  
Yea 45 Nay 0