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SENATE BILL

55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2022

INTRODUCED BY
Leo Jaramillo

AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION; CREATING THE STATE TRANSIT FUND;
ALLOWING MONEY IN THE FUND TO PROVIDE UP TO FIFTY PERCENT OF
MATCHING FUNDS FOR PUBLIC TRANSIT AGENCIES; MAKING AN
APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. [NEW MATERIAL] STATE TRANSIT FUND.--

A. The "state transit fund" is created as a nonreverting fund in the state treasury. The fund consists of appropriations, donations, interest from investment of the fund and other money distributed to the fund. The fund shall be administered by the department, and money in the fund is appropriated to the department to provide funds to public transit agencies as provided by this section. Disbursements from the fund shall be made by warrant of the secretary of

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1 finance and administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the
2 secretary of transportation or the secretary's designee.

3 B. A public transit agency that submits a funding
4 request to the department to match federal grant funds for
5 general public transit operations and public transit
6 infrastructure of a public transit agency shall be eligible to
7 receive money from the state transit fund; provided that, for
8 the purpose of providing matching funds, money from the fund
9 may only be used to provide up to fifty percent of the matching
10 funds required to be provided by the public transit agency for
11 public transit operations and for public transit
12 infrastructure. Money in the fund shall not be used for
13 expenses associated with commuter rail services.

14 C. As used in this section:

15 (1) "department" means the department of
16 transportation;

17 (2) "public transit agency" means a tribal
18 entity or a municipality, county, regional transit district
19 created pursuant to the Regional Transit District Act or other
20 instrumentality of the state or of a municipality or county
21 that provides public transportation services; and

22 (3) "public transit infrastructure" means
23 vehicles, including buses and vans, bus stops, passenger
24 stations, telecommunications systems and other infrastructure
25 and real property necessary to provide public transportation

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services.