



1997 ASSEMBLY BILL 170

March 11, 1997 - Introduced by Representatives BLACK, R. YOUNG, TURNER, MUSSER, RYBA, MURAT, NOTESTEIN, BOYLE, J. LEHMAN, PLOUFF, L. YOUNG, RILEY, HASENOHRL and HUBER, cosponsored by Senator CLAUSING. Referred to Joint committee on Finance.

1 **AN ACT to repeal** 84.61 (1); **to amend** 85.21 (3) (c) and 85.21 (4) (a); and **to create**
2 20.395 (1) (cs), 85.21 (3) (g) and 85.21 (5) of the statutes; **relating to:**
3 transportation services for elderly and disabled persons, elimination of a
4 reserve account in the state transportation fund for certain state highway
5 rehabilitation projects and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the department of transportation administers a program to provide financial assistance to counties providing transportation services for elderly and disabled persons. This bill requires counties to develop a coordinated plan for the local delivery of transportation services to the elderly and disabled, regardless of funding source, and directs counties to coordinate such services with those provided to other persons requiring specialized transportation service wherever practicable. The bill also requires the secretary of transportation, in cooperation with the department of public instruction, the department of health and social services and other interested persons or groups, to establish a task force on transportation services for elderly and disabled persons.

Under current law, the segregated transportation fund contains a special reserve account of \$15,000,000 that may be expended before July 1, 1999, for state highway rehabilitation associated with the construction of a new stadium to be used by the Milwaukee Brewers or for construction activities relating to highway resurfacing or bridge repair on the East-West Freeway from downtown Milwaukee

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to Waukesha. The bill eliminates this special reserve account and appropriates any remaining balance in the special reserve account to assist counties providing transportation services for elderly and disabled persons. The bill does not affect other reserve accounts allocated for construction activities on the East-West Freeway.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 20.395 (1) (cs) of the statutes is created to read:

2 20.395 (1) (cs) *Elderly and disabled county aids supplement, state funds.* A sum
3 sufficient equivalent to the amount in the reserve account under s. 84.61 (1) on the
4 day before the effective date of this paragraph [revisor inserts date], for
5 specialized transportation assistance for the elderly and disabled under s. 85.21.

6 **SECTION 2.** 84.61 (1) of the statutes is repealed.

7 **SECTION 3.** 85.21 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 85.21 (3) (c) To make and execute contracts with counties to ensure the
9 provision of specialized transportation service. Payments under such contracts to
10 eligible applicants shall not exceed the county proportionate share, except as
11 supplemented under par. (e) ~~or (f)~~ to (g). A contract under this section shall require
12 the county to make a matching contribution of 20% of the contract amount and to
13 furnish information determined necessary by the department for periodic program
14 monitoring and year-end auditing and evaluation. A contract may permit a county
15 to hold aids received under this section on or after July 2, 1983, in trust, according
16 to rules promulgated by the department, for the exclusive purpose of acquiring or
17 maintaining equipment used for services authorized under this section. All aids held
18 in trust, as well as any accumulated interest, not expended for the authorized

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1 purposes, shall be returned to the department for deposit in the transportation fund.
2 Nothing in this paragraph entitles a county to any investment interest accumulated
3 prior to the time the aid payment is actually received by the county.

4 **SECTION 4.** 85.21 (3) (g) of the statutes is created to read:

5 85.21 (3) (g) Notwithstanding the determination of county proportionate share
6 under par. (b), to make supplemental payments under contracts to eligible applicants
7 under this section from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (1) (cs). The department
8 shall make supplemental payments under this paragraph to eligible applicants for
9 calendar years 1998 and 1999 on a proportionate basis according to the amount of
10 aids otherwise provided under this section to each applicant for the applicable
11 calendar year. The department shall allocate 50% of the amount in the appropriation
12 under s. 20.395 (1) (cs) to make payments under this paragraph for each calendar
13 year.

14 **SECTION 5.** 85.21 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 85.21 (4) (a) The Each county shall establish a county transportation advisory
16 committee or direct its commission on aging to develop a coordinated county
17 transportation plan for service to elderly and disabled persons, based on all federal,
18 state and local funds available to the county for the service. A county may establish
19 the transportation of elderly and disabled persons to medical, nutritional and
20 work-related activities as the priority for the specialized transportation services. A
21 county shall coordinate transportation services for the elderly and disabled with
22 those provided for school pupils and others requiring specialized transportation
23 service, wherever practicable.

24 **SECTION 6.** 85.21 (5) of the statutes is created to read:

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1 85.21 (5) TASK FORCE ON TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED
2 PERSONS. The secretary of transportation shall establish a task force on
3 transportation services for elderly and disabled persons in cooperation with the
4 department of health and social services, the department of public instruction and
5 other interested persons or groups. The task force shall meet at the call of the
6 secretary of transportation to plan a coordinated system of transportation services
7 for elderly and disabled persons which efficiently uses all federal and state funding
8 sources available to the departments. A progress report shall be prepared by the
9 secretary of transportation and submitted to the appropriate standing committees
10 dealing with transportation matters under s. 13.172 (3) by January 1, 1999, and
11 updated annually thereafter.

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(END)