

ASSEMBLY, No. 1513

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 8, 1996

By Assemblyman GEIST

1 AN ACT concerning the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund
2 Authority.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. The Commissioner of Transportation shall allocate and transfer
8 \$4,200,000 from a part or all of any item or items funded in Fiscal
9 Year 1997 from the revenues and other funds of the New Jersey
10 Transportation Trust Fund Authority to a new item for advance
11 acquisition of rights-of-way by the New Jersey Transit Corporation for
12 a rail transit corridor in Gloucester County.

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14 2. This act shall take effect immediately but shall remain
15 inoperative until enactment into law of the annual appropriation act for
16 the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997 (P.L.1996, c.).

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STATEMENT

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21 This bill directs the Commissioner of Transportation to allocate and
22 transfer \$4,200,000 from an item or items in the Fiscal Year 1997
23 transportation capital program of the State funded by the revenues of
24 the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund Authority to a new item for
25 the advance acquisition of rights-of-way by NJ Transit for a rail transit
26 corridor in Gloucester County. An assessment study undertaken by NJ
27 Transit, with the assistance of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning
28 Commission and a private engineering consultant, considered the
29 potential for new transit services on existing railroad and highway
30 rights-of-way in Gloucester County. The results of the assessment
31 study indicated that transit investments in the Gloucester County
32 corridor should be pursued because there is sufficient demand, the
33 revenue/cost ratio is reasonable, and such investment has strong public
34 support. Moreover, in the absence of transportation investments to
35 increase capacity, the anticipated future growth in population,
36 employment and car ownership in the Gloucester County corridor will
37 degrade traffic conditions and worsen air pollution in this area.

1 Consequently, as NJ Transit continues to develop and refine the rail
2 transit proposal for Gloucester County, monies should be made
3 available now to permit NJ Transit to acquire rights-of-way in a timely
4 and cost effective manner.

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9 Directs DOT Commissioner to allocate \$4.2 million in Transportation
10 Trust Fund monies for advance acquisition of rights-of-way for
11 Gloucester County rail transit corridor.