

SENATE, No. 397

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 18, 1996

By Senator BRYANT

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 \$3,000,000 from a part or all of any item or items funded in Fiscal  
9 Year 1996 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.

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STATEMENT

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19 This bill directs the Commissioner of Transportation to allocate and  
20 transfer \$3,000,000 from an item or items in the Fiscal Year 1996  
21 transportation capital program of the State funded by the revenues of  
22 the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund Authority to a new item for  
23 the advance acquisition of rights-of-way by NJ Transit for a rail transit  
24 corridor in Gloucester county. An assessment study undertaken by NJ  
25 Transit, with the assistance of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning  
26 Commission and a private engineering consultant, considered the  
27 potential for new transit services on existing railroad and highway  
28 rights-of-way in Gloucester county. The results of the assessment  
29 study indicated that transit investments in the Gloucester county  
30 corridor should be pursued because there is sufficient demand, the  
31 revenue/cost ratio is reasonable, and such investment has strong public  
32 support. Moreover, in the absence of transportation investments to  
33 increase capacity, anticipated future growth in population, employment  
34 and car ownership in the Gloucester county corridor would degrade  
35 traffic conditions and worsen air pollution in this area.

36 Consequently, as NJ Transit continues to develop and refine the rail

1 transit proposal for Gloucester county, monies should be made  
2 available now to permit NJ Transit to acquire rights-of-way in a timely  
3 and cost effective manner.

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8 Directs DOT Commissioner to allocate \$3 million in Transportation  
9 Trust Fund monies for advance acquisition of rights-of-way for  
10 Gloucester county rail transit corridor.