

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1469**

Introduced by

Representatives Boschee, Amerman, Klein, Laning, Schneider

Senator Dotzenrod

1 A BILL ~~for an Act to amend and reenact section 39-04.2-04 of the North Dakota Century Code,~~  
2 ~~relating to conditions for public transportation funding.~~for an Act to provide for a legislative  
3 management study regarding the provision of transportation services to veterans and the  
4 impact on transportation service providers.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 ~~SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.~~ Section 39-04.2-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 ~~39-04.2-04. Distribution of funds -- Continuing appropriation.~~

9 ~~1. Moneys in the public transportation fund must be disbursed under guidelines issued by~~  
10 ~~the director. The funds must be used by transportation providers to establish and~~  
11 ~~maintain public transportation, especially for the elderly and handicapped, and may be~~  
12 ~~used to contract to provide public transportation, as matching funds to procure money~~  
13 ~~from other sources for public transportation and for other expenditures authorized by~~  
14 ~~the director. If a transportation provider receives funds from the public transportation~~  
15 ~~fund, the transportation provider shall provide transportation within a funded~~  
16 ~~transportation program to a disabled veteran who qualifies for United States~~  
17 ~~department of veterans' affairs health care benefits and who otherwise qualifies for the~~  
18 ~~funded transportation program without any charge to the disabled veteran. Moneys in~~  
19 ~~the public transportation fund are appropriated to the department of transportation on~~  
20 ~~a continuing basis for distributions authorized under this section.~~

21 ~~2. Each county shall receive a base amount of four-tenths of one percent of the~~  
22 ~~appropriation for the program plus one dollar and fifty cents per capita of population in~~  
23 ~~the county, based upon the latest regular or special official federal census. Each year~~  
24 ~~the director shall increase or decrease the one dollar and fifty cents per capita amount~~

1 ~~in order to distribute all funds appropriated for the biennium. If there are multiple~~  
2 ~~transportation providers in one county, then the base amount must be divided equally~~  
3 ~~among the providers and the additional per capita amount must be based upon the~~  
4 ~~percentage of elderly and handicapped ridership provided by each transportation~~  
5 ~~provider within the county. Funds not expended by a county during a contract period,~~  
6 ~~or previous contract periods, may be redistributed under guidelines established by the~~  
7 ~~director. In addition, unexpended funds may also be used by the director for transit~~  
8 ~~coordination purposes.~~

9 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY.** During the 2015-16 interim, the  
10 legislative management shall consider studying the provision of transportation services to  
11 veterans and the impact on those who provide or will provide free transportation services to  
12 veterans. The study may include a determination of cities that have public transportation  
13 systems, the availability of transportation services for veterans, feedback from transportation  
14 providers regarding the provision of free transportation services to veterans, and the impact on  
15 cities that have public transportation systems. The legislative management shall report its  
16 findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the  
17 recommendations, to the sixty-fifth legislative assembly.