



# MTA LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

DATE: February 13, 1998

**TO: JULIAN BURKE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
MTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**FROM: SHARON LANDERS *SL*  
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

MTA's Government Relations staff are currently reviewing the bills listed below for possible discussion and action at future MTA Board meetings. Please note that the Legislature's deadline for the introduction of new bills is February 20. Staff anticipates additional legislative initiatives relating to transportation and the MTA to be introduced over the next week.

## PENDING LEGISLATION

- AB 1759 – Authored by Assembly Member George Runner (R-Lancaster), AB 1759 would establish a local return program in the SB 45 regional transportation improvement program process. The local return program would provide that, commencing in the year 2000, 50 percent of the funds available to Los Angeles County through the regional improvement program be allocated to cities and the county on a per capita basis. Staff is currently preparing a report on the financial impact of this proposal and plans to have a board item available as soon possible.
- ACA 30 – Assembly Member Kevin Murray (D-Culver City) has authored this measure to provide greater protection for transportation funds which can currently be loaned to the State General Fund. ACA 30 would require that any loan made to the State General Fund be repaid, with interest, during the same fiscal year in which the funds are loaned.
- AB 1136 – This bill, introduced by Assembly Member Scott Wildman (D-Burbank), would require that all public works projects utilizing the "design-build" concept provided by AB 2660 (1996) be overseen by an Inspector General appointed by the State Auditor. An initial review of this measure would suggest

that the appointment of individual inspector generals to each project utilizing the design-build method could negate any potential cost savings anticipated by the use of this construction contracting arrangement. The local agency would be responsible for only costs of the inspector general services.

- AB 1657 – Assembly Member Murray's bill would repeal the 10-year sunset on the state's Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Fund and direct that \$10 million annually be allocated by the Legislature for the program.
- AB 1615 – Assembly Member Lou Papan (D-San Mateo) has introduced this spot bill relating to encouraging the construction of residential housing within "transit villages." Staff is contacting the office to ascertain how the bill may be amended during the session.
- AB 1635—Assembly Member Deborah Ortiz (D-Sacramento) has introduced this measure, co-sponsored by the ATU, which would provide additional training requirements for paratransit operators. The MTA's Local Transit Systems Subcommittee has asked that the agency share significant concerns with the author and support CalACT efforts to amend the bill.
- AB 1664 – This bill, introduced by Assembly Member Murray, would establish participation goals for small business enterprises for state contracts.

#### POTENTIAL LEGISLATION

- A bill by Senator Tom Hayden (D-Los Angeles) to create a San Fernando Valley Transportation Authority.
- A bill by Assembly Member Tony Cardenas (D-Sylmar) to create a San Fernando Valley Transportation Zone.
- A measure by SCRRA to limit the liability of the railroad in cases where fencing is provided for only a portion of a right-of-way.
- A measure by Assembly Member Murray to provide \$40 million in funding for Welfare-to-Work demonstration projects.

Assembly Member Kevin Murray (D-Culver City) has requested an audit of the financial arrangement and the operational condition of the MTA's alcohol bus fleet. The joint Audit Committee chaired by Assembly Member Scott Wildman, (D-Burbank) is scheduled to consider that request on Wednesday, February 18, 1998. It is MTA staff's understanding that the agency would not be charged for this audit.