

House Bill 954 (RULES COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Geisinger of the 48th, Chambers of the 81st, Lindsey of the 54th, Millar of the 79th, Franklin of the 43rd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Article 4 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
 2 relating to offenses against public transportation, so as to provide for circumstances under
 3 which it is unlawful to alter a public transportation fare medium or enter buses, rail vehicles,
 4 or stations without payment of the proper fare to the public transportation provider; to
 5 provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
 6 other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 SECTION 1.

9 Article 4 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
 10 offenses against public transportation, is amended by striking in its entirety Code Section
 11 16-12-120.1, relating to altered fare coins, notes, tokens, transfers, and transaction cards and
 12 the sale or exchange of tokens, transfers, transaction cards, or tickets without consent, and
 13 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

14 "16-12-120.1.

15 A person who commits or attempts to commit any of the following acts shall be guilty of
 16 a misdemeanor if such person:

17 (1) Sells, makes, or possesses any coin, ~~note~~, token, stored value card, transfer,
 18 transaction card, ticket, or ~~similar article~~ any other fare medium which has been altered
 19 from its original condition contrary to its intended use to enter or gain entry into or on
 20 any bus, rail vehicle, or station;

21 (2) Sells or exchanges any token, stored value card, transfer, transaction card, ticket, fare
 22 medium, or similar article which was obtained by fraudulent or illegal means and which
 23 is used or to be used as payment for entry into or on any bus, rail vehicle, or terminal
 24 without the express consent of the public transit agency owning or operating such
 25 vehicles or stations;

1 (3) Offers entry or provides entry into or on any bus, rapid rail car, or station to any
2 person without the payment of the proper fare to the public transit agency owning or
3 operating such vehicles or stations;

4 (4) Gains entry into or on any bus, rapid rail car, or station without the payment of the
5 proper fare ~~to the public transit agency owning or operating such vehicles or stations; or~~

6 (5) Gains entry into or on any bus, rapid rail car, or station through the use of a ~~transcard~~
7 coin, token, transfer, transaction card, ticket, or any other similar fare media medium
8 which is the property of another person when the use of such medium is limited by its
9 terms to a single user. This paragraph shall not apply to stored value cards or similar fare
10 media which deduct the cost of the fare from the value stored on the card or other fare
11 medium each time such card or other fare medium is used."

12 **SECTION 2.**

13 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
14 without such approval.

15 **SECTION 3.**

16 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.