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State of Minnesota  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

EIGHTY-SIXTH  
SESSION

**HOUSE FILE No. 809**

February 16, 2009

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to transportation; providing discount metropolitan transit passes to  
1.3 charitable organizations; requiring report; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008,  
1.4 section 473.408, by adding a subdivision; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2008,  
1.5 section 473.387, subdivision 3.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 473.408, is amended by adding a  
1.8 subdivision to read:

1.9 Subd. 8a. Self-sufficiency discount passes. (a) The council shall offer passes,  
1.10 including tokens, for regular route bus service for sale to eligible charitable organizations  
1.11 at 50 percent of regular fares. For the purposes of this subdivision, "eligible charitable  
1.12 organization" means a charitable organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the  
1.13 Internal Revenue Code that also meets at least one of the following criteria:

1.14 (1) the organization administers a job placement program; or

1.15 (2) the organization provides services for homeless persons.

1.16 (b) All passes sold to eligible charitable organizations under this subdivision must be  
1.17 distributed to and used solely by individuals who lack private means of transportation and  
1.18 who are homeless or seeking employment.

1.19 (c) There is no limit on the number of passes that an eligible charitable organization  
1.20 may purchase under this subdivision.

1.21 (d) The council shall promote and publicize the passes provided under this  
1.22 subdivision on an ongoing basis to eligible charitable organizations.

1.23 (e) The council shall utilize all available funds, including nonstate and federal funds,  
1.24 to support the sale of passes under this subdivision.

2.1 (f) By January 15, 2010, the chair of the Metropolitan Council shall prepare and  
2.2 submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of  
2.3 representatives committees having jurisdiction over transportation. The chair shall prepare  
2.4 and submit the report with existing agency staff and resources. The report must:

2.5 (1) provide a list of sales made under this subdivision, including organization name  
2.6 and number of passes purchased;

2.7 (2) describe efforts to publicize to eligible charitable organizations the discounted  
2.8 passes under this subdivision; and

2.9 (3) describe any efforts to secure additional nonstate funds to support the sale of  
2.10 passes under this subdivision.

2.11 Sec. 2. **REPEALER.**

2.12 Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 473.387, subdivision 3, is repealed.

2.13 Sec. 3. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2.14 Sections 1 and 2 are effective July 1, 2009.

APPENDIX

Repealed Minnesota Statutes: 09-1954

**473.387 SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION MARKETS.**

Subd. 3. **Job seekers.** The council shall establish a program and policies to increase the availability and utility of public transit services and reduce transportation costs for persons who are seeking employment and who lack private means of transportation.