



SCOTT ALLEN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 97TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release

January 18, 2017

Contact: Representative Scott Allen

(608) 266-8580

Rep. Allen Seeks Co-sponsors for Farebox Fairness Bill

Representative Scott Allen (R-Waukesha) circulated the Farebox Fairness Bill today. The legislation would establish a minimum farebox revenue as a percentage of transit operating costs for state-subsidized transit systems.

Fiscal Bureau data suggests a significant disparity among communities in the percentage of farebox revenue applied to transit costs. For instance, in 2016, users in one transit system contributed 36.7% of expenses, while users of another transit system contributed just 8.5%.

The Farebox Fairness Bill (LRB – 1383/1) progressively implements higher minimum farebox revenue contributions through 2021. In 2018, the required percentage would be 18%. In 2019, the percentage would be 20%, and 2020, 22%. In 2021, the minimum contribution would be 25% for operating expenses.

“Transit systems are quasi-business public entities which provide services to customers and operate at a financial loss,” said Rep. Allen. “What amount of loss is appropriate? What percentage of subsidy is fair? This proposal requires users of the system to support at least 25% of the system’s total operating cost.”

The co-sponsorship deadline is Monday, February 6.

###