

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 29, 2025

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2025

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 1, 2025

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1237

**Introduced by Assembly Members McKinnor and Ahrens
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Lowenthal)**

February 21, 2025

An act to add Sections 100116 and 130051.29 to the Public Utilities Code, relating to transportation, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately. *Section 22509.1 to the Business and Professions Code, relating to business.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1237, as amended, McKinnor. ~~Counties of Los Angeles and Santa Clara: sporting events: ticket charge: public transit. Ticket sellers: event tickets: transit tickets.~~

Existing law generally regulates persons who sell admission tickets to sporting, musical, theatre, or any other entertainment events, requiring them, among other things, to maintain records of ticket sales, deposits, and refunds. Existing law requires a ticket sellers that includes tickets to an event in conjunction with the sale of a tour or event package to disclose in any advertisement or promotional materials the price charged or allotted for the ticket. Existing law makes a violation of those provisions regulating ticket sellers a crime.

This bill would require a ticket seller or a person who resells a ticket to a sporting, musical, theatre, or any other entertainment event located at a venue with a capacity of more than 1,000 persons to also, at the

time that a ticket is purchased, give the consumer the option to purchase an all-day ticket from a transit provider that offers service to the venue during the time of the event, as specified. The bill would also require the Department of Transportation to prepare a study of additional transit sales generated pursuant to these provisions and report its findings to the Legislature on or before December 31, 2032. The bill would provide that a violation of the bill's provisions do not constitute a crime.

Existing law creates the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) with various powers and duties relative to transportation projects and services in the County of Santa Clara.

This bill would authorize VTA to impose a charge of up to \$5 on the purchaser of a ticket from a ticket vendor to a sporting event in the County of Santa Clara held as part of the 2026 FIFA World Cup or the 2026 NCAA Men's or Women's Basketball Championship, as specified. The bill would require VTA to use any revenues collected from the charge to support its transit operations. The bill would require VTA, if it imposes the charge, to allow any person to use its transit services at no charge on the day of one of those sporting events if the person presents a ticket to that sporting event at the location where VTA collects fares for transit services. The bill would require VTA, if it imposes the charge, to prepare and submit a report to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2027, that includes specified information regarding implementation of the bill.

Existing law creates the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) with specified powers and duties relative to transportation planning, programming, and operations in the County of Los Angeles.

This bill would authorize LA Metro to impose a charge of up to \$5 on the purchaser of a ticket from a ticket vendor to a sporting event in the County of Los Angeles held as part of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, as specified. The bill would require LA Metro to use any revenues collected from the charge to support its transit operations. The bill would require LA Metro, if it imposes the charge, to allow any person to use its transit services at no charge on the day a match is held as part of the 2026 FIFA World Cup if the person presents a ticket to the match at the location where LA Metro collects fares for transit services. The bill would require LA Metro, if it imposes the charge, to prepare and submit a report to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2027, that includes specified information regarding implementation of the bill.

~~This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.~~

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$ -majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 22509.1 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:

3 22509.1. (a) A ticket seller or a person who resells a ticket to
4 a sporting, musical, theatre, or any other entertainment event
5 located at a venue with a capacity of more than 1,000 persons
6 shall also, at the time that a ticket is purchased, give the consumer
7 the option to purchase an all-day ticket from a transit provider
8 that offers service to the venue during the time of the event.

9 (1) The option to purchase a transit ticket shall be made
10 available to a consumer regardless of whether the ticket is sold
11 on-line on an internet website or by an application accessed by a
12 consumer using a mobile device.

13 (2) The option to purchase a transit ticket shall be listed as the
14 first option on any internet website used by a consumer to complete
15 the purchase of an event ticket that also offers the option to
16 purchase private vehicle parking.

17 (3) A ticket seller, ticket reseller, or transit agency may charge
18 consumers a fee that is reasonably related to the actual cost of
19 any software revisions or associated costs necessary in order to
20 provide the option to purchase a transit ticket to consumers as
21 required by this section.

22 (b) Notwithstanding Section 22505, a violation of this section
23 shall not constitute a misdemeanor.

24 (c) The Department of Transportation shall encourage
25 cross-promotion of transit ticket sales between transit providers
26 and sports and entertainment venues.

27 (d) (1) The department shall prepare a study of additional
28 transit sales generated pursuant to subdivision (a) and report its
29 findings to the Legislature on or before December 31, 2032.

30 (2) The requirement for submitting a report imposed under
31 paragraph (1) is inoperative on December 31, 2033, pursuant to
32 Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.

1 (3) A report to be submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be
2 submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government
3 Code.

4 SECTION 1. ~~Section 100116 is added to the Public Utilities~~
5 ~~Code, to read:~~

6 ~~100116. (a) The VTA may impose a charge of up to five~~
7 ~~dollars (\$5) on the purchaser of a ticket from a ticket vendor to a~~
8 ~~sporting event in the County of Santa Clara. The VTA may only~~
9 ~~impose the charge on the initial purchase of the ticket and shall~~
10 ~~not impose the charge on any subsequent resale of the ticket. A~~
11 ~~ticket vendor shall be responsible for collecting the charge from~~
12 ~~the purchaser and remitting the revenues from that charge to the~~
13 ~~VTA.~~

14 ~~(b) The VTA shall use any revenues collected pursuant to~~
15 ~~subdivision (a) to support its transit operations.~~

16 ~~(c) If the VTA imposes a charge pursuant to subdivision (a),~~
17 ~~the VTA shall allow any person to use its transit services at no~~
18 ~~charge on the day of a sporting event in the County of Santa Clara~~
19 ~~if the person presents a ticket to that sporting event at the location~~
20 ~~where the VTA collects fares for transit services.~~

21 ~~(d) (1) If the VTA imposes a charge in accordance with this~~
22 ~~section, it shall prepare and submit a report to the Legislature on~~
23 ~~or before January 1, 2027, that includes all of the following~~
24 ~~information:~~

25 ~~(A) The amount of the charge authorized and the amount of~~
26 ~~revenue collected as a result of the charge.~~

27 ~~(B) The number of free trips taken as a result of presenting a~~
28 ~~ticket to the VTA.~~

29 ~~(C) The amount of money spent and a detailed account of~~
30 ~~additional transit services provided to serve the sporting events.~~

31 ~~(2) The requirement for submitting a report imposed pursuant~~
32 ~~to this subdivision is inoperative on January 1, 2031, pursuant to~~
33 ~~Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.~~

34 ~~(3) A report to be submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall~~
35 ~~be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government~~
36 ~~Code.~~

37 ~~(e) For purposes of this section, “sporting event” means any~~
38 ~~match held as part of the 2026 FIFA World Cup or any game held~~
39 ~~as part of the 2026 NCAA Men’s or Women’s Basketball~~
40 ~~Championship.~~

1 SEC. 2. ~~Section 130051.29 is added to the Public Utilities~~
2 ~~Code, to read:~~

3 ~~130051.29. (a) The Los Angeles County Metropolitan~~
4 ~~Transportation Authority may impose a charge of up to five dollars~~
5 ~~(\$5) on the purchaser of a ticket from a ticket vendor to a sporting~~
6 ~~event in the County of Los Angeles. The Los Angeles County~~
7 ~~Metropolitan Transportation Authority may only impose the charge~~
8 ~~on the initial purchase of the ticket and shall not impose the charge~~
9 ~~on any subsequent resale of the ticket. A ticket vendor shall be~~
10 ~~responsible for collecting the charge from the purchaser and~~
11 ~~remitting the revenues from that charge to the Los Angeles County~~
12 ~~Metropolitan Transportation Authority.~~

13 ~~(b) The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation~~
14 ~~Authority shall use any revenues collected pursuant to subdivision~~
15 ~~(a) to support its transit operations.~~

16 ~~(c) If the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation~~
17 ~~Authority imposes a charge pursuant to subdivision (a), it shall~~
18 ~~allow any person to use its transit services at no charge on the day~~
19 ~~of a sporting event if the person presents a ticket to that sporting~~
20 ~~event at the location where the authority collects fares for transit~~
21 ~~services.~~

22 ~~(d) (1) If the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation~~
23 ~~Authority imposes a charge in accordance with this section, it shall~~
24 ~~prepare and submit a report to the Legislature on or before January~~
25 ~~1, 2027, that includes all of the following information:~~

26 ~~(A) The amount of the charge authorized and the amount of~~
27 ~~revenue collected as a result of the charge.~~

28 ~~(B) The number of free trips taken as a result of presenting a~~
29 ~~ticket to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation~~
30 ~~Authority.~~

31 ~~(C) The amount of money spent and a detailed account of~~
32 ~~additional transit services provided to serve the sporting events.~~

33 ~~(2) The requirement for submitting a report imposed pursuant~~
34 ~~to this subdivision is inoperative on January 1, 2031, pursuant to~~
35 ~~Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.~~

36 ~~(3) A report to be submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall~~
37 ~~be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government~~
38 ~~Code.~~

39 ~~(e) For purposes of this section, “sporting event” means any~~
40 ~~match held as part of the 2026 FIFA World Cup.~~

1 ~~SEC. 3.—This act is an urgency statute necessary for the~~
2 ~~immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within~~
3 ~~the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall~~
4 ~~go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:~~
5 ~~To protect and promote continued growth in California’s sports~~
6 ~~and entertainment industries by enabling early sales of tickets to~~
7 ~~2026 FIFA World Cup games, it is necessary for this act to take~~
8 ~~immediate effect.~~

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