



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 2016-0430, **Version:** 2

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Clerk 09/14/2016

AN ORDINANCE related to the provision of transit tickets to human service agencies; and amending Ordinance 12643, Section 19, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.700.210, Ordinance 17932, Section 2, and Ordinance 12643, Section 19, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.700.210.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS:

1. K.C.C. 4A.700.210 authorizes a program for the sale and distribution of transit tickets to human service agencies at twenty percent of face value. The total dollar amount of the eighty percent discount is established in this section.
2. The dollar amount was increased in 2014 in recognition that the 2015 fare increase would otherwise have reduced the number of tickets available to human service agencies.
3. The amount of the discount is established in this section at two million seven hundred fifty thousand dollars per year starting in 2017.
4. Ordinance 17295, Section 1, established a congestion reduction transit incentives program including authorization for individuals to donate transit tickets to the human services ticket program. This program is expected to complete its useful life in 2017.
5. The pioneering ORCA Lift fare, available to adults with incomes of two hundred percent or less of the Federal Poverty Level, was never intended to address the needs of human service agency clients with limited to virtually no income.
6. Human service agencies have requested more tickets than available under the total authorized

dollar amount of the eighty-percent discount. A county council survey of human service agencies in early 2016 found that many agencies expect to run out of tickets by October 2016.

7. A revision of the relevant section of the King County Code will increase the number of tickets available for purchase by the human service agencies for the remainder of 2016 and in future years.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this ordinance expires January 1, 2018.

SECTION 2. Ordinance 12643, Section 19, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.700.210 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

The director is authorized to establish a program for the sale and distribution of tickets to human service agencies at twenty percent of their cash value for the purpose of meeting the transportation needs of low income and homeless populations. The total amount of the eighty percent discount provided under the program shall not exceed ~~((two million five hundred fifty))~~ three million two hundred thousand dollars for any one year. However, the amount of the eighty percent discount may be increased by up to an additional two hundred thousand dollars annually under this human services ticket program for the value of tickets applied to it through the congestion reduction transit incentives program described in Ordinance 17295, Section 1. The allocation of discount tickets under the program shall be made by the director in conjunction with local jurisdictions and the county's department or departments responsible for human services programs. The local jurisdictions and the county department or departments shall determine the number of tickets from their respective allocations that shall be sold to the human service agencies eligible under the program. Tickets sold under the program are valid on all public transportation and paratransit service.

SECTION 3. Ordinance 17932, Section 2, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Ordinance 17932, Section 3 ((of this ordinance)), and section 4 of this ordinance take((s)) effect January 1, ((2017)) 2018.

SECTION 4. Ordinance 12643, Section 19, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.700.210 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

The director is authorized to establish a program for the sale and distribution of tickets to human service agencies at twenty percent of their cash value for the purpose of meeting the transportation needs of low income and homeless populations. The total amount of the eighty percent discount provided under the program shall not exceed ((two million seven hundred fifty)) three million two hundred thousand dollars for any one year. The allocation of discount tickets under the program shall be made by the director in conjunction with local jurisdictions and the county's department or departments responsible for human services programs. The local jurisdictions and the county department or departments shall determine the number of tickets from their respective allocations that shall be sold to the human service agencies eligible under the program.

Tickets sold under the program are valid on all public transportation and paratransit service.