

## ATTACHMENT F

**BILL:** ASSEMBLY BILL 752

**AUTHOR:** ASSEMBLYMEMBER JESSE GABRIEL (D-VAN NUYS)

**SUBJECT:** TRANSIT STATIONS – LACTATION ROOMS

**STATUS:** ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
HEARING SCHEDULED: APRIL 22, 2019

**ACTION:** WORK WITH AUTHOR

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors adopt a WORK WITH AUTHOR position on Assembly Bill 752 (Gabriel).

### **ISSUE**

This bill was introduced to require lactation rooms in multi-modal transit stations.

Specifically the bill would:

- Require a multimodal transit station that has a public restroom and that commences operations or a renovation on or after January 1, 2021, to include a lactation room.

### **DISCUSSION**

Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel (D-Van Nuys) has introduced AB 752 as a measure to encourage transit agencies to consider the needs of transit users in the operation and amenities offered at transit stations. In the recent past, a number of airport operators and Amtrak have taken strides to introduce lactation rooms to their facilities, either by state mandate or stakeholder engagement.

In 2018, the California State Legislature passed AB 1976, which requires employers to provide a separate lactation room in workplaces. The Federal Aviation Administration included language in its re-authorization bill that requires airports to provide public lactation rooms in their facilities. Amtrak has installed lactation “pods” in five major stations, Washington DC’s Union Station, Baltimore’s Penn Station, Philadelphia’s 30<sup>th</sup> Street Station, Chicago’s Union Station and New York’s Penn Station.

The author states that the intent of AB 752 is to provide accessible lactation rooms at transit stations for new and nursing mothers. The provisions of the bill would require a multimodal transit station facility to include a lactation room – separate from a public restroom – that features at least, a chair and electrical outlet.

Staff finds that the bill has provisions include the definition of “transit station” that would potentially apply to the Los Angeles Historic Union Station and El Monte Busway Facility. This bill was reviewed by Metro’s System, Safety and Security, Operations,

Facilities Maintenance and Property Management staff for potential impacts. Staff found that a number of challenges regarding safety, cleanliness and operations were presented by the bill. The primary concern for the agency in providing transit service on the Metro system is safety. Providing a safe, secure and clean facility for mothers would be a priority for Metro.

Due to the potential impacts on Metro's facilities and the safety concerns expressed by our System Security, Facilities Maintenance and Union Station Property Management, staff would like to work with the author to refine the proposal.

Staff is currently reviewing the bill for potential impacts to Metro's operations and security. A WORK WITH AUTHOR position will allow staff the flexibility to ensure that Metro's priorities for providing safe and efficient service are incorporated in the final version of the bill.

Staff therefore recommends that the Board adopt a WORK WITH AUTHOR position on the measure AB 752 (Gabriel).

#### **DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT**

There is no determined safety impact due to the enactment of the proposed legislation.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The estimated financial impact has yet to be determined.

#### **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

Staff could elect to take not adopt a position on the legislation; however, that would preclude Metro from participating in the legislative process to amend the bill to strengthen the provisions that affect the agency's operations and service.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

Should the Board decide to adopt a WORK WITH AUTHOR position on this legislation; staff will communicate the Board's position to the author and work to ensure inclusion of the Board's priorities in the final version of the bill. Staff will continue to keep the Board informed as this issue is addressed throughout the legislative session.