

Legislative
Assembly
of Ontario



Assemblée
législative
de l'Ontario

1ST SESSION, 43RD LEGISLATURE, ONTARIO
1 CHARLES III, 2023

Bill 82

An Act respecting accessible public transit

Ms D. Begum

Private Member's Bill

1st Reading March 20, 2023

2nd Reading

3rd Reading

Royal Assent



An Act respecting accessible public transit

His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

1 The *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001* is amended by adding the following section:

Review of standards for public transportation organizations

10 (1) The Minister of Transportation and the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility shall jointly conduct a review of standards for public transportation organizations with respect to the accessibility of existing transit stations and stops.

Report

(2) No more than 12 months after the day this section comes into force, the Minister of Transportation and the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility shall prepare a report on their findings and submit the report to the Legislative Assembly.

2 Section 14 of the Act is amended by adding the following subsection:

Other duties

(5) Every public transportation organization shall ensure the following:

1. That all stops and shelters are accessible to persons with disabilities.
2. That persons with disabilities can access bus bays in transit stations without having to leave the premises.
3. That persons with disabilities can access all trains, light-rail transit and streetcars in transit stations.

Commencement

3 This Act comes into force on the day it receives Royal Assent.

Short title

4 The short title of this Act is the *Enhancing Public Transit Accessibility Act, 2023*.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Bill amends the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001* to provide that the Minister of Transportation and the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility shall jointly conduct a review of standards for public transportation organizations with respect to the accessibility of existing transit stations and stops. No more than 12 months after these amendments come into force, the Ministers shall submit a report on their findings to the Legislative Assembly.

The Act is also amended to provide that every public transportation organization shall ensure that all stops and shelters are accessible to persons with disabilities, that persons with disabilities can access bus bays in transit stations without having to leave the premises and that that persons with disabilities can access all trains, light-rail transit and streetcars in transit stations.