

# MAKE PUBLIC TRANSIT AFFORDABLE TO EVERYONE

HF 1685 / SF 2093

In Minnesota, everyone should be able to get around in affordable, sustainable, and healthy ways. Our families and communities are counting on you to take action this session!

## TRANSIT SAVES MONEY FOR MINNESOTA FAMILIES

**For families and workers who are struggling to make ends meet, transportation can be a big barrier to a better future.**

According to AAA, the average annual cost of car ownership is more than \$12,000, while an annual unlimited transit pass is \$1,000. Still, for many Minnesotans, every dollar counts and **the cost of a standard transit pass is a challenging expense.**

Right now, Metro Transit's Transit Assistance Program (TAP) provides annual passes for \$1 fares to people who qualify for public assistance programs. Compared to a standard \$2 fare, TAP can **cut a person's transit costs in half**, freeing up more of their household budget to meet other essential needs like rent or child care.

## ADD THE TRANSIT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO MNBENEFITS PORTAL

**To ensure more residents have easy access to the Transit Assistance Program, lawmakers should integrate the application into the MNbenefits portal.**

While the Metropolitan Council estimates 624,000 people in the metro are eligible for the TAP program by income alone, 2021 data suggests **just 1 percent are using it.**

By adding this essential program to the portal where Minnesotans already apply for benefits like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), we can **make TAP more visible to people it was designed to support, reduce barriers to enrollment, and ensure more people can afford to get around on public transit.**



Learn more at [movemn.org](https://movemn.org) and contact Nas Nourkadi at [nasn@movemn.org](mailto:nasn@movemn.org)