

## **For immediate release**

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### **RTA STATEMENT ON DEFEAT OF SENATE BILL 307** *Service cuts, fare increases and layoffs in January still loom*

The RTA is disappointed that long-term, comprehensive funding and reform legislation has not been adopted. Without action before the end of the year, the CTA, Metra and Pace will be forced to impose drastic service cuts, fare increases and layoffs starting in January as well as defer maintenance projects, in order to close the 2008 budget shortfall. Additionally, the previously negotiated historic agreement to reform the CTA pension and retiree healthcare system will expire.

SB572 would provide adequate funding and essential reform measures. We hope the legislative leaders and the Governor will pass comprehensive, long-term transit reform and funding legislation before the region's nearly two million daily transit riders and millions of other commuters must contend with more traffic congestion, longer commute times, higher transportation costs and more pollution.

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