



1-866-579-RIDE, www.PaCommuterServices.org

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Bailout bill allows bike commuting wage exclusion in 2009
Cannot be used concurrent with other commuter benefits

York, Pa. – Commuter Services of South Central Pennsylvania today alerted employers to a new bicycle commuting benefit. It was included by Congress as part of the October 2008 “Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008,” also known as the financial rescue legislation or the “bailout” bill.

Up to \$20 per month can be excluded from an employee’s wages in any month the worker “regularly uses” a bicycle to travel between home and work. The money can be used for “reasonable expenses,” including bike purchase, improvement, storage or repair.

However, the IRS warns that the benefit can not be used in a month in which the employee is receiving another qualified transportation fringe benefit, such as a transit pass.

For 2009, the IRS has raised to \$120 per month the amount that can be set aside for transit passes and vanpool participation as part of each worker’s qualified, tax-free transportation fringe benefit plan.

Commuter Services help employers set up these plans as part of its free services.

Employers can contact Commuter Services at 1-866-579-RIDE or visit the Web site, www.PaCommuterServices.org, to learn more.

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About Commuter Services of South Central Pennsylvania:

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Commuter Services is a program of the non-profit Susquehanna Regional Transportation Partnership, whose board includes the Harrisburg Regional Chamber; the Gettysburg Adams, Lebanon Valley and York County Chambers of Commerce; Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Adams County Transit Authority (ACTA); County of Lebanon Transit Authority (COLT); Red Rose Transit Authority (RRTA, Lancaster); York County Transportation Authority (rabbitransit); Capital Area Transit (CAT, Cumberland-Dauphin-Harrisburg); the Lancaster, Lebanon and York metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs); Harrisburg MPO (Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties) and Adams Rural Planning Organization (RPO). Funding is provided by the Federal Highway Administration and PennDOT.
