
HOUSE BILL 1013

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Romero, R. Fisher, Costa, Quall, Ogden, Basich,
Patterson and Chopp

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Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to adopt-a-highway programs; and amending RCW
2 47.40.100.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 47.40.100 and 1990 c 258 s 5 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department of transportation shall establish a state-wide
7 adopt-a-highway (~~((litter—control))~~) program (~~((whereby—volunteer~~
8 ~~organizations may contribute to a cleaner environment and a more~~
9 ~~attractive state by adopting sections of state highway and picking up~~
10 ~~litter along those sections))~~). The purpose of the program is to
11 provide volunteers and businesses an opportunity to contribute to a
12 cleaner environment, enhanced roadsides, and protection of wildlife
13 habitats. Participating volunteers and businesses shall adopt
14 department-designated sections of state highways, rest areas, park and
15 ride lots, intermodal facilities, and any other facilities the
16 department deems appropriate, in accordance with rules adopted by the
17 department. The department may elect to coordinate a consortium of
18 participants for adopt-a-highway projects.

1 The adopt-a-highway program shall include, at a minimum, litter
2 control for the adopted section, and may include additional
3 responsibilities such as planting and maintaining vegetation,
4 controlling weeds, graffiti removal, and any other roadside improvement
5 or clean-up activities the department deems appropriate.

6 (2) A volunteer group or business choosing to participate in the
7 adopt-a-highway program must submit a proposal to the department. The
8 department shall review the proposal for consistency with departmental
9 policy and rules. The department may accept, reject, or modify an
10 applicant's proposal.

11 (3) The department shall seek partnerships with volunteer groups
12 and businesses to facilitate the goals of this section. The department
13 may solicit funding for the adopt-a-highway program that allows private
14 entities to undertake all or a portion of financing for the
15 initiatives. The department shall develop guidelines regarding the
16 cash, labor, and in-kind contributions to be performed by the
17 participants.

18 (4) An organization whose name: (a) Endorses or opposes a
19 particular candidate for public office, (b) advocates a position on a
20 specific political issue, initiative, referendum, or piece of
21 legislation, or (c) includes a reference to a political party shall not
22 be eligible to participate in the adopt-a-highway program.

23 ~~((+2))~~ (5) In administering the adopt-a-highway program, the
24 department shall:

25 (a) Provide a standardized application form, registration form, and
26 contractual agreement for all ~~((volunteer))~~ participating groups.
27 ~~((Such))~~ The forms shall notify the prospective participants of the
28 risks and responsibilities to be assumed by ~~((either))~~ the department
29 ~~((and/or the volunteer groups))~~ and the participants;

30 (b) Require all ~~((volunteers))~~ participants to be at least fifteen
31 years of age;

32 (c) Require parental consent for all minors;

33 (d) Require at least one ~~((volunteer))~~ adult supervisor for every
34 eight minors;

35 (e) Require one designated leader for each ~~((volunteer))~~
36 participating organization, unless the department chooses to coordinate
37 a consortium of participants;

1 (f) ~~((Assign))~~ Limit each ((volunteer)) participating organization
2 ~~((a))~~ to only one section of state highway, or other state-owned
3 transportation facility, to be assigned for a specified period of time;
4 (g) Recognize the efforts of a participating organization by
5 erecting and maintaining signs with the organization's name on both
6 ends of the organization's section of highway;
7 (h) Provide appropriate safety equipment ~~((and "Volunteer Litter~~
8 ~~Crew Ahead" signs))~~. Safety equipment ~~((, other than hardhats,))~~ issued
9 to ~~((volunteer organizations))~~ participating groups must be returned to
10 the department ~~((after each use for reuse by other volunteer groups))~~
11 upon termination of the applicable adopt-a-highway agreement;
12 (i) Provide safety training for all ~~((volunteers))~~ participants;
13 (j) Pay any and all premiums or assessments required under RCW
14 51.12.035 to secure medical aid benefits under chapter 51.36 RCW for
15 all volunteers participating in the program;
16 (k) Require participating businesses to pay all premiums or
17 assessments required to secure medical aid benefits under chapter 51.36
18 RCW for all employees or agents participating in the program;
19 (l) Maintain records of all injuries and accidents that occur;
20 ~~((+1))~~ (m) Adopt rules ((which)) that establish a process to
21 resolve any question of an organization's eligibility to participate in
22 the adopt-a-highway program;
23 ~~((+m))~~ (n) Obtain permission from property owners who lease right
24 of way before allowing ((a volunteer)) an organization to adopt a
25 section of highway on such leased property; and
26 ~~((+n))~~ (o) Establish procedures and guidelines for the adopt-a-
27 highway program.
28 ~~((+3))~~ (6) Nothing in this section affects the rights or
29 activities of, or agreements with, adjacent landowners, including the
30 use of rights of way and crossings, nor impairs these rights and uses
31 by the placement of signs.

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