
SENATE BILL 6232

State of Washington 53rd Legislature 1994 Regular Session

By Senators Hargrove, Owen and Snyder

Read first time 01/17/94. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to public highways; and amending RCW 47.42.020.

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

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 47.42.020 and 1993 c 430 s 10 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this
6 chapter.

7 (1) "Department" means the Washington state department of
8 transportation.

9 (2) "Erect" means to construct, build, raise, assemble, place,
10 affix, attach, create, paint, draw, or in any other way bring into
11 being or establish.

12 (3) "Interstate system" means any state highway which is or does
13 become part of the national system of interstate and defense highways
14 as described in section 103(d) of title 23, United States Code.

15 (4) "Maintain" means to allow to exist.

16 (5) "Person" means this state or any public or private corporation,
17 firm, partnership, association, as well as any individual or
18 individuals.

1 (6) "Primary system" means any state highway which is or does
2 become part of the federal-aid primary system as described in section
3 103(b) of title 23, United States Code.

4 (7) "Scenic system" means (a) any state highway within any public
5 park, federal forest area, public beach, public recreation area, or
6 national monument, (b) any state highway or portion thereof outside the
7 boundaries of any incorporated city or town designated by the
8 legislature as a part of the scenic system, or (c) any state highway or
9 portion thereof outside the boundaries of any incorporated city or town
10 designated by the legislature as a part of the scenic and recreational
11 highway system except for the sections of highways specifically
12 excluded in RCW 47.42.025 or located within areas zoned by the
13 governing county for predominantly commercial and industrial uses, and
14 having development visible to the highway, as determined by the
15 department.

16 (8) "Sign" means any outdoor sign, display, device, figure,
17 painting, drawing, message, placard, poster, billboard, or other thing
18 that is designed, intended, or used to advertise or inform, any part of
19 the advertising or informative contents of which is visible from any
20 place on the main-traveled way of the interstate system or other state
21 highway.

22 (9) "Commercial and industrial areas" means any area zoned
23 commercial or industrial by a county or municipal code, or if unzoned
24 or zoned for general uses by a county or municipal code, that area
25 occupied by three or more separate and distinct commercial or
26 industrial activities, or any combination thereof, within a space of
27 five hundred feet and the area within five hundred feet of such
28 activities on both sides of the highway. The area shall be measured
29 from the outer edges of the regularly used buildings, parking lots, or
30 storage or processing areas of the commercial or industrial activity
31 and not from the property lines of the parcels upon which the
32 activities are located. Measurements shall be along or parallel to the
33 edge of the main traveled way of the highway. An area that previously
34 qualified as a commercial and industrial area under this subsection,
35 but no longer qualifies due to commercial or industrial closures that
36 are a direct result of the timber crisis, shall maintain its former
37 status as a commercial and industrial area. The following shall not be
38 considered commercial or industrial activities:

1 (a) Agricultural, forestry, grazing, farming, and related
2 activities, including, but not limited to, wayside fresh produce
3 stands;

4 (b) Transient or temporary activities;

5 (c) Railroad tracks and minor sidings;

6 (d) Signs;

7 (e) Activities more than six hundred and sixty feet from the
8 nearest edge of the right of way;

9 (f) Activities conducted in a building principally used as a
10 residence.

11 If any commercial or industrial activity that has been used in defining
12 or delineating an unzoned area ceases to operate for a period of six
13 continuous months, any signs located within the former unzoned area
14 become nonconforming and shall not be maintained by any person.

15 (10) "Roadside area information panel or display" means a panel or
16 display located so as not to be readable from the main traveled way,
17 erected in a safety rest area, scenic overlook, or similar roadside
18 area, for providing motorists with information in the specific interest
19 of the traveling public.

20 (11) "Temporary agricultural directional sign" means a sign on
21 private property adjacent to state highway right of way to provide
22 directional information to places of business offering for sale
23 seasonal agricultural products on the property where the sale is taking
24 place.

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