
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1702

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Hatfield, Mielke, Romero, Armstrong, Cooper, Blake, Boldt, Orcutt, Santos, McCoy, Alexander, Schoesler, Chandler, Grant, Schindler and Condotta)

READ FIRST TIME 3/10/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to motorist information sign panels; amending RCW
2 47.36.310; and repealing RCW 47.36.325.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 47.36.310 and 1999 c 201 s 3 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department is authorized to erect and maintain motorist
7 information sign panels within the right of way of the interstate
8 highway system to give the traveling public specific information as to
9 gas, food, lodging, camping, or tourist-oriented business, including
10 fruit and vegetable stands, available on a crossroad at or near an
11 interchange. Motorist information sign panels shall include the words
12 "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "CAMPING," or "TOURIST ACTIVITIES" and
13 directional information and may contain one or more individual business
14 signs maintained on the panel. In determining the number of individual
15 business signs to be displayed, the department must ensure the use of
16 available space on a panel is maximized. Motorist information sign
17 panels are authorized within the corporate limits of cities and towns
18 and areas zoned for commercial or industrial uses at locations where
19 there is adequate distance between interchanges to ensure compliance

1 with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The erection and
2 maintenance of motorist information sign panels shall also conform to
3 the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and rules adopted by the
4 state department of transportation. A motorist service or tourist-
5 oriented business located within one mile of an interstate highway
6 shall not be permitted to display its name, brand, or trademark on a
7 motorist information sign panel unless its owner has first entered into
8 an agreement with the department limiting the height of its on-premise
9 signs at the site of its service installation to not more than fifteen
10 feet higher than the roof of its main building measured to the bottom
11 of the on-premise sign. The restriction for on-premise signs does not
12 apply if the sign is not visible from the highway. The department may,
13 on a case-by-case basis, waive the height restriction when an on-
14 premise sign is visible from the rural interstate system. The
15 department shall charge reasonable fees for the display of individual
16 business signs to defray the costs of their installation and
17 maintenance, and (~~may~~) shall charge reasonable fees to recover costs
18 for the erection and maintenance of the motorist information sign
19 panels. The department must take measures to ensure the timely and
20 efficient processing of applications submitted by businesses wishing to
21 advertise on the panels.

22 (2) For purposes of this section, "fruit and vegetable stands"
23 means commercial or nonprofit roadside stands and on-farm markets that
24 are marketing fruit and/or vegetables and whose major portion of income
25 or visitors are derived during its normal business season from
26 motorists residing both in and outside of the immediate area of the
27 activity.

28 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. RCW 47.36.325 (Motorist information signs--
29 Private contractors) and 2002 c 321 s 1 are each repealed.

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