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HOUSE BILL 1954

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State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Newhouse, Buri, Williams, Flannigan, Condotta,  
Roach and Haler

Read first time 02/11/2005. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1            AN ACT Relating to recreational vehicle logos on highway sign  
2 panels; amending RCW 47.36.310; reenacting and amending RCW 47.36.320;  
3 and adding a new section to chapter 47.36 RCW.

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

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

7            The department is authorized to erect and maintain motorist  
8 information sign panels within the right of way of the interstate  
9 highway system to give the traveling public specific information as to  
10 gas, food, lodging, camping, or tourist-oriented business available on  
11 a crossroad at or near an interchange. Motorist information sign  
12 panels shall include the words "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "CAMPING," or  
13 "TOURIST ACTIVITIES" and the letters "RV" next to a gas, food, lodging,  
14 camping, or tourist activity sign if the business or destination  
15 accommodates recreational vehicles, and directional information  
16 ((and)). Directional information may contain one or more individual  
17 business signs maintained on the panel. The "RV" logo for businesses  
18 or destinations that accommodate recreational vehicles shall be placed  
19 in the lower right corner of the gas, food, lodging, camping, or

1 tourist activity sign and shall be in the form of a small yellow circle  
2 with the letters "RV" in black. Motorist information sign panels are  
3 authorized within the corporate limits of cities and towns and areas  
4 zoned for commercial or industrial uses at locations where there is  
5 adequate distance between interchanges to ensure compliance with the  
6 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The erection and  
7 maintenance of motorist information sign panels shall also conform to  
8 the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and rules adopted by the  
9 state department of transportation. A motorist service or tourist-  
10 oriented business located within one mile of an interstate highway  
11 shall not be permitted to display its name, brand, or trademark on a  
12 motorist information sign panel unless its owner has first entered into  
13 an agreement with the department limiting the height of its on-premise  
14 signs at the site of its service installation to not more than fifteen  
15 feet higher than the roof of its main building measured to the bottom  
16 of the on-premise sign. The restriction for on-premise signs does not  
17 apply if the sign is not visible from the highway. The department may,  
18 on a case-by-case basis, waive the height restriction when an on-  
19 premise sign is visible from the rural interstate system. The  
20 department shall charge reasonable fees for the display of individual  
21 business signs to defray the costs of their installation and  
22 maintenance, and may charge reasonable fees to recover costs for the  
23 erection and maintenance of the motorist information sign panels.

24 **Sec. 2.** RCW 47.36.320 and 1999 c 213 s 1 and 1999 c 201 s 4 are  
25 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

26 The department is authorized to erect and maintain motorist  
27 information sign panels within the right of way of noninterstate  
28 highways to give the traveling public specific information as to gas,  
29 food, lodging, recreation, or tourist-oriented businesses accessible by  
30 way of highways intersecting the noninterstate highway. The motorist  
31 information sign panels are permitted only at locations within the  
32 corporate limits of cities and towns and areas zoned for commercial or  
33 industrial uses where there is adequate distance between interchanges  
34 to ensure compliance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control  
35 Devices. Motorist information sign panels shall include the words  
36 "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "RECREATION," or "TOURIST ACTIVITIES" and the  
37 letters "RV" next to a gas, food, lodging, camping, or tourist activity

1 sign if the business or destination accommodates recreational vehicles,  
2 and directional information ((and)). Directional information may  
3 contain one or more individual business signs maintained on the panel.  
4 The "RV" logo for businesses or destinations that accommodate  
5 recreational vehicles shall be placed in the lower right corner of the  
6 gas, food, lodging, camping, or tourist activity sign and shall be in  
7 the form of a small yellow circle with the letters "RV" in black. The  
8 erection and maintenance of motorist information sign panels along  
9 noninterstate highways shall also conform to the Manual on Uniform  
10 Traffic Control Devices and rules adopted by the state department of  
11 transportation. A motorist service or tourist-oriented business  
12 located within one mile of a noninterstate highway shall not be  
13 permitted to display its name, brand, or trademark on a motorist  
14 information sign panel unless its owner has first entered into an  
15 agreement with the department limiting the height of its on-premise  
16 signs at the site of its service installation to not more than fifteen  
17 feet higher than the roof of its main building measured to the bottom  
18 of the on-premise sign.

19 The department shall adopt rules for the erection and maintenance  
20 of tourist-oriented directional signs with the following restrictions:

21 (1) Where installed, they shall be placed in advance of the "GAS,"  
22 "FOOD," "LODGING," ((or)) "RECREATION," or "RV" motorist information  
23 sign panels previously described in this section;

24 (2) Signs shall not be placed to direct a motorist to an activity  
25 visible from the main traveled roadway;

26 (3) Premises on which the qualified tourist-oriented business is  
27 located must be within fifteen miles of the state highway except as  
28 provided in RCW 47.36.330(3) (b) and (c), and necessary supplemental  
29 signing on local roads must be provided before the installation of the  
30 signs on the state highway.

31 The department shall charge reasonable fees for the display of  
32 individual business signs to defray the costs of their installation and  
33 maintenance, and may charge reasonable fees for the erection and  
34 maintenance of the motorist information sign panels.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 47.36 RCW  
36 to read as follows:

37 (1) The department of transportation shall not include the logo

1 "RV" under RCW 47.36.310 and 47.36.320 unless the department determines  
2 that the gas, food, or lodging business or the camping or tourist  
3 activity destination provides parking spaces, overhang clearances, and  
4 entrances and exits designed to accommodate recreational or other large  
5 vehicles.

6 (2) The department may charge a reasonable fee in accordance with  
7 RCW 47.36.310 or 47.36.320 to defray the costs associated with the  
8 installation and maintenance of signs with "RV" logos.

9 (3) The department may adopt rules necessary to administer this  
10 section.

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