

HOUSE BILL 1393

R1

0lr1650

By: **Delegates Schuh and King**

Introduced and read first time: February 18, 2010

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Highway Administration – State Line and Welcome Signs – Prohibition**
3 **on Including Names of Elected Officials**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the State Highway Administration from including the
5 name of any person currently holding elected office on any new State line or
6 welcome sign placed by the Administration; and generally relating to State line
7 and welcome signs placed by the State Highway Administration.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Transportation
10 Section 8–605
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Transportation**

16 8–605.

17 (a) Along any State highway, the Administration may place signs, signals, or
18 markers to inform the traveling public of directions, distances, danger, or other
19 information.

20 (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the
21 Administration shall assume the full cost of installing and maintaining traffic signals
22 required at the intersection of a State highway with any municipal street or highway
23 or at any other place along a State highway that is within the limits of any municipal
24 corporation.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) This subsection does not apply where the traffic signal primarily
2 will serve traffic generated by a private development, such as an apartment complex,
3 shopping center, industrial plant, or drive-in theater.

4 (c) Signs, signals, and markers placed along any interstate highway shall
5 conform to all applicable federal standards.

6 (d) (1) For the purpose of providing information to the driving public on
7 the availability of gas, food, lodging, camping, or attractions, the Administration may
8 place along State controlled access highways specific service signs, subject to the
9 applicable federal standards.

10 (2) (i) The Administration shall adopt regulations governing
11 specific service signs.

12 (ii) The regulations shall conform to all applicable federal
13 standards, and shall govern the type, lighting, size, number, and location of specific
14 service signs.

15 (iii) The Administration shall consult with:

16 1. The Maryland Travel Council prior to drafting
17 regulations; and

18 2. The Department of Business and Economic
19 Development and the appropriate local government officials concerning the placement
20 of specific service signs under this subsection.

21 (3) The business or attraction identified in a specific service sign shall
22 pay for the full administrative and operational cost of procurement, installation, and
23 maintenance of the sign.

24 (4) The Administration shall report to the Governor and, in
25 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on
26 or before January 9, 2002 on the installation of service signs along State controlled
27 access highways under this subsection.

28 (e) **THE ADMINISTRATION MAY NOT INCLUDE THE NAME OF ANY**
29 **PERSON CURRENTLY HOLDING ELECTED OFFICE ON ANY NEW STATE LINE OR**
30 **WELCOME SIGN PLACED BY THE ADMINISTRATION.**

31 (f) Any person who removes, damages, or defaces any sign, signal, or marker
32 placed under this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a
33 fine not exceeding \$100.

34 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
35 October 1, 2010.