

SENATE BILL NO. 822

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR BURLISON.

3742S.01H

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary

AN ACT

To repeal section 226.525, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to highway signs.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 226.525, RSMo, is repealed and one new
2 section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 226.525,
3 to read as follows:

226.525. 1. The state highways and transportation
2 commission is directed to erect within the right-of-way of
3 all classes of highways within the state signs and notices
4 pertaining to publicly and privately owned natural wonders
5 and scenic and historical attractions under the following
6 conditions:

7 (1) Such signs shall not violate any federal law,
8 rule, or regulation affecting the allocation of federal
9 funds to the state of Missouri or which violate any safety
10 regulation formally promulgated by the state highways and
11 transportation commission.

12 (2) Such official signs shall be limited in content to
13 the name of the attraction and necessary travel information.

14 (3) The state highways and transportation commission
15 shall determine those sites and attractions for which
16 directional and other official signs may be erected as
17 permitted by Section 131 of Title 23, United States Code,
18 which it deems of such importance as to justify such

19 signing, using as a guide those publicly or privately owned
20 natural wonders and scenic, historic, educational, cultural,
21 or recreational sites which have been determined to be of
22 general interest. **All caves inspected and approved in**
23 **accordance with section 293.620 shall be deemed of adequate**
24 **interest and qualified to receive directional signage.**

25 (4) The state highways and transportation commission
26 may require reimbursement for the cost of erection and
27 maintenance of the official directional signs authorized
28 hereunder when sites or attractions are privately owned by
29 other than the state or political subdivisions. The state
30 highways and transportation commission shall prescribe the
31 size, number and locations of such signs based upon its
32 determination of the travelers' need for directional
33 information, **provided that where the focus of the attraction**
34 **is a geological feature, the size, number, and locations of**
35 **the signs for which an attraction is eligible shall not vary**
36 **based on the classification of highway along which the signs**
37 **are located, including with regard to the physical**
38 **composition or traffic volume of the highway.**

39 2. The commission shall adopt rules to implement a
40 program for the erection and maintenance of tourist-oriented
41 directional signs within the right-of-way of state highways
42 in the state. The tourist-oriented directional signs shall
43 provide business identification and directional information
44 for natural attractions and activities which, during a
45 normal business season, derive a major portion of the income
46 and visitors for the business or activity from motorists not
47 residing in the immediate area of the business or activity.
48 Natural attractions and activities eligible for such tourist-
49 oriented directional signs shall include, but not be limited
50 to, caves, museums, wineries, antique business districts and

51 tourist-oriented directional signs indicating the location
52 of any veterans' memorial located at any college in such
53 county provided that such signs are located on a highway
54 known as the "Veterans' Memorial Highway" in any county of
55 the first classification with a population of more than one
56 hundred seventy thousand inhabitants but less than two
57 hundred thousand inhabitants.

58 **3. Provided the focus of the attraction is a**
59 **geological feature, any costs or fees for signs erected and**
60 **maintained in accordance with this section shall not vary**
61 **based on whether the attraction is publicly or privately**
62 **owned, or based on the classification of highway along which**
63 **the signs are located, including with regard to the physical**
64 **composition or traffic volume of the highway, and shall not**
65 **exceed the actual cost of the signs' erection and**
66 **maintenance.**

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