

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. 108

L.D. 942

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DATE: 6/15/95

(Filing No. H-491 )

**TRANSPORTATION**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
117TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 691, L.D. 942, Bill, "An Act to Improve Highway Signing Information"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

**Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §1912-B** is enacted to read:

**§1912-B. Logo signs on the interstate highway system**

Pursuant to rules adopted under this section, the commissioner may authorize the placement of logo signs within the right-of-way of the interstate system. Rules adopted under this section must regulate the size, shape, manner and location of logo signs and must describe the procedure for applying to the department for permission to erect a logo sign and the criteria used by the department to select among applicants. The commissioner shall charge an initial fee for the production and placement of a logo sign and an annual fee to cover the maintenance costs. Fees charged must approximate direct costs.

The commissioner, with the advice of the Travel Information Advisory Council, shall adopt rules to implement this section not later than December 15, 1995.

**Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §1913-A, sub-§6**, as corrected by RR 1991, c. 2, §89, is amended to read:

**6. Interstate system.** None of the signs referred to in this section, other than signs conforming with subsection 1,

paragraphs B and C and logo signs erected pursuant to section 1912-B, may be located within the right-of-way limits of the interstate system or within 660 feet of the nearest edge of the interstate system and erected in such a fashion that the message may be read from the interstate highway.

**Sec. 3. Improvement of highway signing.** The Department of Transportation shall review highway signing and develop a plan to make the State's highway signing easier to use. That plan must be implemented by the department as signs are replaced and as funding becomes available. In developing that plan, the department shall consider:

1. Including the distance in miles to towns on signs that indicate the direction to a town;

2. Including on directional signs the name and distance in miles to known tourist destinations and towns along that route;

3. Placing signs indicating lane use over the road and respective lane; and

4. Improving signing to major points of interest to tourists.

**Sec. 4. Allocation.** The following funds are allocated from Other Special Revenue to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1995-96	1996-97
<b>TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF</b>		
<b>Logo Signing Program</b>		
All Other	\$5,000	\$5,000
Authorizes expenditures for general operating expenses of the Logo Signing Program.		

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the statement of fact the following:

**FISCAL NOTE**

	1995-96	1996-97
<b>APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS</b>		

**Roll**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 691, L.D. 942

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Other Funds \$5,000 \$5,000

**REVENUES**

Other Funds \$5,000 \$5,000

This bill provides additional Other Special Revenue allocations to the Department of Transportation of \$5,000 annually beginning in fiscal year 1995-96 to authorize expenditures for the logo signing program. The department is authorized to set fees to cover placement and maintenance costs. The actual amounts of dedicated revenue and expenditures in this program may vary from the estimated amounts of \$5,000 annually. The amounts will depend on the demand for the signs and the rules for placing the signs, which can not be determined at this time.

The additional costs to promulgate rules for logo signing can be absorbed within the Department of Transportation utilizing existing budgeted resources.

The bill also directs the Department of Transportation to review signing and develop a plan to make signs easier for public use. Implementation of this plan can be carried out utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment allows the Commissioner of Transportation to authorize the placement of logo signs within the right-of-way of the interstate system. Prior to authorizing any logo signs, the commissioner must adopt rules regulating the size, shape, manner and location of logo signs. The amendment also directs the commissioner to prepare a long-term plan for making the State's highway signs easier to use. The amendment also adds an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.