
HOUSE BILL 2662

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Representatives Hudgins, Jarrett, Murray, Sommers, Morris, Santos, Sullivan, Wood, Pettigrew, Kenney, Romero, Chase and Edwards

Read first time 01/19/2004. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to transportation system signage using icons and
2 pictograms; adding a new section to chapter 47.06 RCW; adding a new
3 section to chapter 35.95A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 81.112
4 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to
7 promote the use of icons and pictograms that incorporate the use of
8 commonly accepted symbols that can be understood and interpreted by a
9 variety of people from all walks of life and different nations in order
10 to assist them in the navigation of this state. These signs can be
11 used on roadways and for other transportation-related facilities such
12 as transit stations, airports, bus and train stations, and ferry
13 terminals. Pictograms are signs that depict services, facilities, or
14 destinations in picture form and are used throughout the world.
15 Pictograms are useful for traveling within a transit system as well as
16 for locating transit system stations and stops.

17 The legislature finds that many signing methods such as icons,
18 already in use by the Washington state department of transportation and
19 other agencies, facilitate use of the transportation systems in the

1 state and connections between modes. The legislature also finds that
2 the development of pictograms for use within transit systems will
3 assist system users. It is the intent of the legislature to have icons
4 and pictograms in use as new systems are put into service to promote
5 tourism and be in place by 2010 to assist international visitors coming
6 to Washington during the Olympic Games in Vancouver, British Columbia,
7 Canada.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 47.06 RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 (1) The department shall develop a program to implement a statewide
11 program to use icons to locate transportation facilities and pictograms
12 on signs that identify tourist attractions and transportation systems'
13 facilities and services for transit system users. The new standards
14 are to supplement existing signs. The program must include guidelines
15 for implementing state, regional, and local sign programs.

16 (2) The program must use existing logos and signs to the extent
17 possible for this program and set standards, consistent with federal
18 and state requirements and convenience for the traveling public. As
19 much as possible, the department shall use approaches to signing
20 adopted by the city transportation authorities under section 3 of this
21 act and regional transit authorities under section 4 of this act. The
22 program signing is to be easily understood by the traveling public,
23 including non-English speaking persons and visitors from other nations.
24 The program for signage must employ graphics consistent with
25 international symbols for transportation facilities and signage
26 consistent with department of transportation guidelines and programs.
27 The signage must also use distinguishing symbols or pictograms,
28 including the use of color, as a means to identify stations and points
29 of interest within transportation systems. The program must include
30 criteria for designating facilities, services, and destinations for
31 signage and include guidelines for the design, placement, and use of
32 symbols or pictograms. It must also address an approach to implement
33 these signs in an efficient manner.

34 (3) The department shall develop the program in cooperation with
35 representatives from regional transportation planning organizations,
36 operators of public transportation services, common carriers, port

1 districts with marine passenger terminals and airports on their
2 property, appropriate local governments, and state and federal
3 agencies.

4 (4) The department shall provide a preliminary report to the
5 legislature by December 1, 2004, on the implementation program,
6 including its benefits and costs and on progress made by city
7 transportation authorities in implementing section 3 of this act and
8 regional transit authorities in implementing section 4 of this act.
9 The department shall complete program development by September 1, 2005.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 35.95A RCW
11 to read as follows:

12 Each authority shall incorporate in plans for stations along any
13 monorail project signing that is easily understood by the traveling
14 public, including non-English speaking persons and visitors from other
15 nations. The signage must employ graphics consistent with
16 international symbols for transportation facilities and signage
17 consistent with department of transportation guidelines and programs.
18 The signage must also use distinguishing pictograms as a means to
19 identify stations and points of interest along the monorail corridor
20 for persons who use languages that are not Latin-alphabet based. These
21 requirements are intended to apply to new sign installation and not to
22 existing signs. The authority may replace existing signs as it
23 chooses; however, it shall use the new signing designs when existing
24 signs are replaced. All signage must comply with requirements of
25 applicable federal law.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 81.112 RCW
27 to read as follows:

28 Each authority shall incorporate in plans for stations along any
29 light-rail or commuter rail facility signing that is easily understood
30 by the traveling public, including non-English speaking persons and
31 visitors from other nations. The signage must employ graphics
32 consistent with international symbols for transportation facilities and
33 signage consistent with department of transportation guidelines and
34 programs. The signage must also use distinguishing symbols or
35 pictograms as a means to identify stations and points of interest along
36 the corridor for persons who use languages that are not Latin-alphabet

1 based. These requirements are intended to apply to new sign
2 installation and not to existing signs. The authority may replace
3 existing signs as it chooses; however, it shall use the new signing
4 designs when existing signs are replaced. All signage must comply with
5 requirements of applicable federal law.

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