



Telephone: (517) 373-5383 Fax: (517) 373-1986 TDD: (517) 373-0543

Senate Bill 589 (Substitute S-2 as reported by the Committee of the Whole)

Sponsor: Senator Roger Kahn, M.D.

Committee: Transportation

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Highway Advertising Act to do the following:

- -- Require a sign constructed under an interim permit to be no closer than 900 feet to another sign structure on the same side of the highway along interstate highways, freeways, and primary highways.
- -- Require the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to grant an interim permit for an existing sign structure located in Saginaw County if an application were submitted between October 1, 2009, and November 15, 2010, the existing structure were not closer than 900 feet to another sign structure along the same side of the highway, and the application were for a digital billboard.
- -- Require the owner of a sign structure that displays changing messages or images to apply for a digital billboard permit, in addition to the annual permit required under the Act.

The Act generally prohibits MDOT from issuing annual permits for new highway signs, although permits issued before January 1, 2007, remain valid. The Department must issue an interim permit or permits to a holder of a valid permit or permits if the holder is otherwise in compliance with the Act and surrenders the permit or permits to MDOT upon the removal of the permitted sign structure or structures. An interim permit may be used only for the construction of a new sign structure and remains in effect if the fees are renewed annually.

MCL 252.307a Legislative Analyst: Curtis Walker

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have little to no impact on MDOT expenses or State revenue.

Date Completed: 9-1-09 Fiscal Analyst: David Zin