

SENATE BILL 736

By Tate

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 54-5-706, relative to erection and placement of signs on state highways.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 54-5-706, is amended by designating the existing language as subsection (a).

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 54-5-706, is further amended by adding the following language as a new subsection (b):

(b) For purposes of this section:

(1)

(A) "Eligible facilities" includes hospitals located within urbanized areas.

(B) The chief executive of the largest city located within an urbanized area is authorized to develop a comprehensive hospital sign plan and deliver the plan to the department for its review. Except as provided in this subsection (b), such plan shall be in compliance with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices as adopted by the department. The proposed plan shall be considered an exception to the general prohibition on directional signs for hospitals within an urbanized area as set forth in the department's rules, and shall be considered as being in the interest of the motoring public and not contrary to public safety. The department shall promulgate rules and regulations consistent with this section; and

(2) "Urbanized areas" means any county having a population of one hundred thousand (100,000) or greater according to the most recent federal census.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.