



Roy Cooper, Governor
State of North Carolina

GOVERNOR ROY COOPER OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE:

House Bill 645, "AN ACT TO REVISE THE OUTDOOR ADVERTISING LAWS"

Protecting the beauty and environment of North Carolina should be a top priority, but this legislation authorizes cutting down trees and other clearing work along roadways without the consent of nearby communities. Local governments should have more of a say in where their communities allow billboards.

Therefore, I veto the bill.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roy Cooper".

Roy Cooper
Governor

The bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina House of Representatives on this the 22nd day of August 2019, at 1:52 pm for reconsideration by that body.

RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR

8.22.19

1:52 PM

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "James White".

return receipt requested, addressed to the party to be noticed, and delivering to the addressee, the reasons for the denial.

(b) Notwithstanding the one-year period required in subsection (a) of this section, permits to remove vegetation may be granted for outdoor advertising locations, if the outdoor advertising has been relocated, as allowed by law, and the outdoor advertising otherwise complies with the requirements of this section and rules adopted by the Department in accordance with this section."

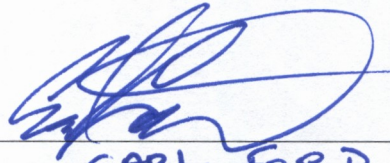
SECTION 7. G.S. 136-133.5(d) reads as rewritten:

"(d) ~~The~~ Except for relocations authorized under G.S. 136-131.3, the Department shall not issue permits for new outdoor advertising signs at a sign location where existing trees, if they were to reach the average mature size for that species, would make the proposed sign faces, when erected, not completely visible from the viewing zone. "Existing trees" are those trees that at the time of the permit application are four inches or greater in diameter as measured six inches from the ground. "Viewing zone" means the area which is 500 feet as measured along the edge of the main travel way of the controlled route on each side of the proposed sign structure which will have a sign face."

SECTION 8. If any provision of this act or its application is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this act that can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and, to this end, the provisions of this act are severable.

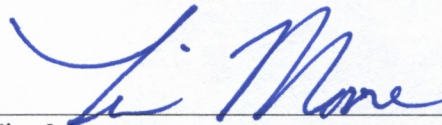
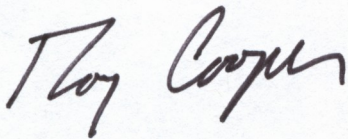
SECTION 9. This act is effective when it becomes law. Section 4 of this act applies to outdoor advertising signs removed on or after July 1, 2019. Section 7 of this act applies to outdoor advertising signs relocated on or after the effective date.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 9th day of August, 2019.



CARL FORD
Presiding Officer of the Senate

VETO



Tim Moore
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Roy Cooper
Governor

Approved _____ .m. this _____ day of _____, 2019

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