



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 333

January Session, 2011

Senate Bill No. 993

Senate, April 4, 2011

The Committee on Environment reported through SEN. MEYER of the 12th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING FAIR ADVERTISING FOR CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL TOURISM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (e) of section 13a-123 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (e) The following types of signs, displays and devices may, with the
5 approval of and subject to regulations adopted by the commissioner,
6 be permitted within the six-hundred-sixty-foot area of interstate,
7 primary and other limited access state highways, except as prohibited
8 by state statute, local ordinance or zoning regulation: (1) Directional
9 and other official signs or notices, which signs and notices shall
10 include, but not be limited to, signs and notices pertaining to natural
11 wonders and scenic and historical attractions which are required or
12 authorized by law; (2) signs, displays and devices advertising the sale
13 or lease of the property upon which they are located; (3) signs, displays
14 and devices advertising activities conducted on the property on which

15 they are located; [and] (4) directional and other official signs or notices
 16 pertaining to farming that is part of the state's agricultural tourism;
 17 and (5) signs, displays or advertising devices which are in place for
 18 sixty days or less. Subject to regulations adopted by the commissioner
 19 and except as prohibited by state statute, local ordinance or zoning
 20 regulation signs, displays and devices may be erected and maintained
 21 within six hundred sixty feet of primary and other limited access state
 22 highways in areas which are zoned for industrial or commercial use
 23 under authority of law or located in unzoned commercial or industrial
 24 areas which areas shall be determined from actual land uses and
 25 defined by regulations of the commissioner. The regulations of the
 26 commissioner in regard to size, spacing and lighting shall apply to any
 27 segments of the interstate system which traverse commercial or
 28 industrial zones wherein the use of real property adjacent to the
 29 interstate system is subject to municipal regulation or control, or which
 30 traverse other areas where the land use, as of September 21, 1959, was
 31 clearly established under state law as industrial or commercial.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	13a-123(e)

ENV *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 12 \$	FY 13 \$
Department of Transportation	TF - Potential Revenue Gain	Less than \$15,000	Less than \$15,000

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

There is a potential revenue gain of less than \$15,000 per year to the Special Transportation Fund from sign application fees (\$1,500).

If a Logo sign does not currently exist on an approved interchange, then the cost and fabrication of the Logo sign is the responsibility of the initial applying business. The cost of installation, labor and materials is between \$17,000 and \$20,000 for each sign and is the responsibility of the business. Up to six businesses located in closest proximity to the sign can have their logos placed on the sign. Subsequent businesses are required to reimburse the initial business a percentage of the initial business's installation costs. Subsequent businesses are also responsible for all costs for the installation of their business signs.

The Out Years

The future fiscal impact would be dependent on the number of signs purchased and installed.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 993*****AN ACT CONCERNING FAIR ADVERTISING FOR CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL TOURISM.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to permit, with the transportation commissioner's approval and subject to DOT regulations, signs along state highways relating to farming that is part of the state's agricultural tourism. DOT is already authorized to permit signs relating to natural wonders and scenic and historical attractions, among others. Signs are permitted within 660 feet of a state highway right-of-way.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 27 Nay 0 (03/18/2011)