

# HOUSE BILL 852

R1

4r1242

---

By: **Delegate O'Donnell**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2014

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Highways – Scenic Byways – Signs**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the State Highway Administration to issue a permit  
4 for a certain sign along or near a certain scenic byway if the sign was erected on  
5 or before a certain date; and generally relating to signs erected along scenic  
6 byways.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Transportation  
9 Section 8–730  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Transportation**

15 8–730.

16 **(A)** [The] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION,**  
17 **THE** Administration may not issue a permit for any outdoor sign along or near any  
18 federal–aid primary highway, if the sign:

19 (1) Imitates or resembles any official traffic sign, signal, or device;

20 (2) Is erected or maintained on any tree or painted or drawn on any  
21 rock or other natural feature;

22 (3) Is erected or maintained in a way that:

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) Obscures or otherwise interferes with the effectiveness of an  
2 official traffic sign, signal, or device; or

3 (ii) Obstructs or interferes with a driver's view of approaching,  
4 merging, or intersecting traffic;

5 (4) Is located within 250 feet of any public park, public forest,  
6 playground, or cemetery that is adjacent to a federal-aid primary highway; or

7 (5) Is along or near a scenic byway located on the federal-aid primary  
8 highway.

9 **(B) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY ISSUE A PERMIT FOR AN OUTDOOR SIGN**  
10 **ALONG OR NEAR A SCENIC BYWAY LOCATED ON A FEDERAL-AID PRIMARY**  
11 **HIGHWAY IF THE SIGN WAS ERECTED ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2008.**

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
13 October 1, 2014.