

**DRAFTER'S NOTE**  
**FROM THE**  
**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU**

LRB-1685/1dn  
PEN:wlj&jlg:hmh

Tuesday, January 12, 1999

Senator Baumgart:

This bill is identical to 1997 Assembly Bill 543.

The definition of billboard is modeled after Hawaii's definition [HRS 445-111 (2) (1996)]. Please check the proposed definition closely. See HRS 445-112 (1996), copy enclosed. Hawaii prohibits the erection or maintenance of all billboards and outdoor advertising devices, with specific exceptions that are narrower than Wisconsin's purposes permitted under s. 84.30, stats. See HRS 445-112 (1996), copy enclosed. Please review Hawaii's exceptions closely to determine whether you want to allow the erection of billboards for similar specific purposes. Alaska, Maine and Vermont also prohibit the erection of billboards.

Please note that this draft prohibits only the erection of new billboards. Under the draft, billboards for which WisDOT has already issued a license may be erected or maintained as provided under current law.

Also, note that under s. 20.395 (4) (ch), stats., WisDOT currently has authority to receive private gifts, grants, donations, bequests and devises and to expend such moneys for the purposes for which made and received. WisDOT could use this existing appropriation to pay for billboard elimination from gifts to WisDOT for that purpose.

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