



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1413/P1
ZDW:amn

DOA:.....Bork, BB0318 - Tribal nation welcome signs

FOR 2023-2025 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

AN ACT ...; relating to: the budget.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

TRANSPORTATION

HIGHWAYS AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE

Tribal nation welcome signs

This bill authorizes a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band in this state to erect and maintain within the right-of-way of any highway within the boundaries of an Indian reservation or other land held in trust for the tribe or band a tribal nation welcome sign. Under the bill, “tribal nation welcome sign” means an official sign erected and maintained by a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band in this state that the tribe determines is necessary to inform motorists of the territorial boundaries of tribal reservation and trust lands. The bill provides that welcome signs may not be erected within the right-of-way of an interstate highway and are not subject to the Wisconsin manual on traffic control devices adopted by DOT.

Under current law generally, no sign may be placed within the limits of any street or highway except as necessary for the guidance or warning of traffic, the safeguard of children at play, or to indicate the presence of a neighborhood watch

program. This prohibition does not apply to directional and other official signs or to municipal welcome signs.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 86.19 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

86.19 (1) Except as provided in sub. (1m), (1n), ~~or (1o)~~, or (1p) or s. 84.01 (30) (g), no sign shall be placed within the limits of any street or highway except such as are necessary for the guidance or warning of traffic or as provided by ss. 60.23 (17m) and 66.0429. The authorities charged with the maintenance of streets or highways shall cause the removal therefrom and the disposal of all other signs.

SECTION 2. 86.19 (1p) of the statutes is created to read:

86.19 (1p) (a) In this subsection, “tribal nation welcome sign” means an official sign erected and maintained by a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band in this state that the tribe or band determines is necessary to inform motorists of the territorial boundaries of the Indian reservation or other land held in trust for the tribe or band.

(b) A federally recognized American Indian tribe or band in this state may erect and maintain within the right-of-way of any highway within the boundaries of an Indian reservation or other land held in trust for the tribe or band a tribal nation welcome sign. No sign under this subsection may be placed within the right-of-way of a highway designated as part of the national system of interstate and defense highways. A sign placed under this subsection is not a traffic control device and is not subject to the provisions of the Wisconsin manual on traffic control devices adopted by the department under s. 84.02 (4) (e).

(END)