

**CHAPTER NO. 11**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 182**

**By Representatives McKee, Gunnels, Roach**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 178**

**By Senator Miller**

AN ACT providing for the erection of directional signs for Tellico Plains and the Cherohala Skyway on Interstate Highway 75 in Monroe County.

WHEREAS, the Cherohala Skyway (State Route 165 in Tennessee and State Route 143 in North Carolina) has recently been completed; and

WHEREAS, the Cherohala Skyway winds through the beautiful Cherokee and Nantahala National Forests and links the fair cities of Tellico Plains, Tennessee and Robbinsville, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Cherohala Skyway has deservedly been designated as a National Scenic By-Way by the Federal Highway Administration; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the Cherohala Skyway will be heavily utilized by tourists, who will be eager to experience the many joys of nature to be found between Tellico Plains and Robbinsville; and

WHEREAS, although the State of Tennessee has adequately addressed the increased traffic flow that is anticipated in Tellico Plains and the surrounding area, there is no directional signage on Interstate Highway 75 relative to Tellico Plains or the Cherohala Skyway; and

WHEREAS, the erection of directional signs for Tellico Plains and the Cherohala Skyway on Interstate Highway 75 would help secure the economic well-being of this vibrant and growing Tennessee community; now therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Department of Transportation is hereby directed to erect and maintain directional signs for Tellico Plains and the Cherohala Skyway on Interstate Highway 75 at Exit 60 (State Route 68), both northbound and southbound, in Monroe County.

SECTION 2. Such directional signs shall indicate that State Route 68 eastbound is a route to the Cherohala Skyway and that the Cherohala Skyway links Tellico Plains, Tennessee and Robbinsville, North Carolina.

SECTION 3. Such directional signs shall also indicate that the Cherohala Skyway is designated as a National Scenic By-Way.

SECTION 4. The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 5. This act shall become operative only if the Federal Highway Administrator advises the Commissioner of Transportation in writing that the provisions of

this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: March 1, 1999**

  
JIMMY RAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

**APPROVED this 11th day of March 1999**

  
DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR