

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**CORRECTED
FISCAL NOTE**

HB 89 – SB 1155

February 19, 2013

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Transportation (TDOT) to modify the existing signage at each point where an interstate, federal or state highway crosses the boundary of Bristol, Tennessee, so that each sign includes the following language: *Bristol – The Birthplace of County Music*. Requires the modification of such signs be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and take place only if the cost of the modification and installation is paid to TDOT from non-state funds within one year of the effective date of this bill.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

On February 2, 2013, a fiscal note was issued estimating a fiscal impact as follows:

Other Fiscal Impact – Not Significant to State and Local Government – However, to the extent that non-state funds are received from a local government, there will be a one-time, permissive increase in local government expenditures of \$2,200.

Due to erroneous assumptions, this impact was in error. Based on additional information received from TDOT, the estimated fiscal impact is:

(CORRECTED)

Other Fiscal Impact – According to TDOT, the proposed sign language would result in a violation of federal guidelines set forth in MUTCD. As a result, no signs shall be erected and the fiscal impact to the state or local government will be not significant.

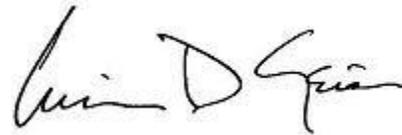
Assumptions:

- According to TDOT, the proposed sign language in the bill would be considered advertising or a message not related to traffic control, and such would be expressly prohibited by the federal guidelines set forth in MUTCD, under Section 1A.01 Purpose of Traffic Control Devices.
- Section 1A.01 of MUTCD states the following: Traffic control devices or their support shall not bear any advertising message or any other message that is not related to traffic control.

- The section further states that: the purpose of traffic control devices, as well as the principles for their use, is to promote highway safety and efficiency by providing for the orderly movement of all road users on streets, highways, bikeways, and private roads open to public travel throughout the Nation.
- Traffic control device is defined in MUTCD as: a sign, signal, marking, or other device used to regulate, warn, or guide traffic, placed on, over, or adjacent to a street, highway, private road open to public travel, pedestrian facility, or shared-use path by authority of a public agency or official having jurisdiction, or in the case of a private road open to public travel, by authority of the private owner or private official having jurisdiction.
- According to TDOT, the proposed signs would not qualify as “tourist-oriented directional signs” or “special service signs” which are not considered advertising.
- As a result of the federal prohibition of erecting the proposed signs, no signs shall be erected and the fiscal impact to the state or local government will be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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