

Senate Bill 59

By: Senators Cheeks of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and Streat of the 19<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 32-6-75 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 restrictions on outdoor advertising authorized to be erected near the edge of the right of way  
3 of the interstate system or primary highways in this state and multiple message signs on the  
4 interstate system, primary highways, and other highways, so as to change the method of  
5 measuring the distance of certain signs from the edge of the right of way; to direct the  
6 Department of Transportation to modify the state's agreement with the United States  
7 secretary of transportation to conform to such changes; to change the allowable minimum  
8 duration of multiple message signs from ten seconds to six seconds; to reduce the allowable  
9 minimum distance between such signs; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting  
10 laws; and for other purposes.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

12 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

13 Code Section 32-6-75 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to restrictions on  
14 outdoor advertising authorized to be erected near the edge of the right of way of the interstate  
15 system or primary highways in this state and multiple message signs on the interstate system,  
16 primary highways, and other highways, is amended by striking in its entirety paragraph (18)  
17 of subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

18 "(18) Is located outside of the corporate limits of a municipality and adjacent to an  
19 interstate highway within 500 feet of an interchange, intersection at grade, or safety rest  
20 area. The foregoing 500 foot zone shall be measured along the interstate highway from  
21 the point at which the pavement commences or ceases to widen at exits from or entrances  
22 to the main traveled way and shall be measured independently of other entrance and exit  
23 ramps or safety rest areas on the side of the interstate highway opposite the location of  
24 the sign. In circumstances where both the exit and entrance ramps on one side of an  
25 interchange constitute one or more continuous lanes of travel to the exit and entrance  
26 ramps of the adjacent interchange, this side of the interchange shall be treated as if no

1 ramps exist and the foregoing 500 foot zone on this side of the interchange shall be  
 2 measured from the survey centerline of the main traveled way and crossroad forming the  
 3 interchange or intersecting road. ~~In all circumstances where this definition conflicts with~~  
 4 ~~any agreement with the United States secretary of transportation pursuant to Code Section~~  
 5 ~~32-6-87, said agreement shall be deemed to control for purposes of this Code section~~ The  
 6 department shall modify its agreement with the United States secretary of transportation  
 7 pursuant to Code Section 32-6-87 to conform with the provisions of this subsection;"

## 8 SECTION 2.

9 Said Code section is further amended by striking in its entirety paragraph (1) of subsection  
 10 (c) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11 "(1) Multiple message signs shall be permitted on the interstate system, primary  
 12 highways, and other highways under the following conditions:

13 (A) Each sign shall remain fixed for at least ~~ten~~ six seconds;

14 (B) When a message is changed, it shall be accomplished in three seconds or less;

15 (C) No such sign shall be placed within ~~5,000~~ 2,640 feet of another multiple message  
 16 sign which faces the same direction on the same side of the highway;

17 (D) Any such sign shall contain a default design that will freeze the sign in one  
 18 position if a malfunction occurs; and

19 (E) Any maximum size limitations shall apply independently to each side of a multiple  
 20 message sign."

## 21 SECTION 3.

22 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
 23 without such approval.

## 24 SECTION 4.

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.