

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 639**

Introduced by Garrett, 3.

Read first time January 21, 2015

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to road signs; to amend section 39-220,  
2 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide for the issuance of  
3 permits to control vegetation obscuring advertising signage along  
4 highways as prescribed; to provide duties for the Department of  
5 Roads; and to repeal the original section.  
6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 39-220, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
2 amended to read:

3 39-220 (1) The Department of Roads may at its discretion require  
4 permits for advertising signs, displays, or devices which are placed or  
5 allowed to exist along or upon any interstate or primary highway or at  
6 any point visible from the main-traveled way, except for signs located  
7 within an area of fifty feet of any commercial or industrial building on  
8 the premises. Such permits shall be renewed biennially. Each sign shall  
9 bear on the side facing the highway the permit number in a readily  
10 observable place for inspection purposes from the highway right-of-way.  
11 The department is authorized to charge a fee to be not less than twenty-  
12 five cents or not to exceed fifteen dollars for each permit and renewal  
13 permit for each individual sign. The department shall adopt and  
14 promulgate rules and regulations establishing, and from time to time  
15 adjusting, the annual fees for the permits to cover the costs of  
16 administering sections 39-212 to 39-226 and may by rule and regulation  
17 provide exceptions from the payment of fees for signs advertising  
18 eleemosynary or nonprofit public service activities, signs designating  
19 historical sites, and farm and ranch directional signs. The department  
20 may revoke the permit for noncompliance reasons and remove the sign if,  
21 after thirty days' notification to the sign owner, the sign remains in  
22 noncompliance. Printed sale bills not exceeding two hundred sixteen  
23 square inches in size shall not require a permit if otherwise conforming.

24 (2) The department may require permits for the control of vegetation  
25 in the vicinity of advertising signs, displays, or devices placed  
26 pursuant to subsection (1) of this section. A permit issued under this  
27 subsection shall allow the cutting, trimming, or spraying of vegetation  
28 under controlled conditions when such vegetation obstructs or obscures a  
29 lawfully placed sign, display, or device. The permits shall be issued and  
30 renewed in the same manner as provided in subsection (1) of this section.  
31 The department shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for the

1 administration of a vegetation control program to carry out the purposes  
2 of this subsection not later than September 1, 2016.

3       Sec. 2.   Original section 39-220, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
4 Nebraska, is repealed.