Missouri legislature sustains Gov's veto of pro-billboard bill

We are happy to report that during their recent veto session, Missouri's legislative leaders did not attempt to override Gov. Nixon's veto of AB 430, a bill that would have greatly increased billboard blight in the state.

That the Governor's veto will stand is a tremendous victory for Missouri's communities and scenic landscapes as the legislation would have seriously weakened local control over billboards and dismantled other needed protections of existing billboard laws.

Thank you to all the Missourians who contacted their state representatives to support Governor Nixon's veto. We're sure the billboard industry will try again next year, and we encourage you to stay engaged with your legislators and become a member of Scenic Missouri.

Court upholds township's billboard ban on safety, aesthetic grounds

Once again, the legality of a billboard ban based on traffic safety and aesthetic concerns has been upheld by the courts.

Interstate Outdoor Advertising sought to have Mount Laurel, N.J.’s billboard ban deemed unconstitutional as an infringement on free speech, but Judge Robert Kugler of the U.S. District Court in Camden ruled in favor of the township and its zoning board.

In his ruling, Kugler said evidence presented for Mount Laurel supported its reasons for the ban, which included traffic safety and aesthetics, and noted that the ban is not enforced on a selective basis.

A similar lawsuit filed by the company against the township of Cherry Hill also was dismissed in the same court by Judge Joseph Rodriguez.

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Know someone who might be interested in scenic issues? Why not encourage them to sign up?

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~ Donate ~
You can support our unique and vital mission by making a tax-deductible donation today.

~ Upcoming Events ~

Tuesday October 11:

Bi-Annual teleconference of NAHBA, the National Alliance of Highway Beautification Agencies.

For more information and to participate please contact NAHBA.

New study shows scenic byway's significant economic benefits

Scenic America has long touted the benefits of scenic byways on local economies, and a new study on the economic impact of a byway in Minnesota further proves the value of these scenic roads to their surrounding communities.

The study of the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway showed that the byway provided more than $21 million annually in direct and indirect economic impacts in the local area. The study was performed by the University of Minnesota's Tourism Center and University's Center for Community Vitality. Click here to download the full report.

As you may or may not know, the future of the National Scenic Byway Program is currently unknown. To learn more about the threats to this program and what you can do to help support it, visit the National Scenic Byway Foundation website.