

**Virginia Department of Transportation**  
**2008 Fiscal Impact Statement (Regular Session)**

**1. Bill Number: HB 373**

**House of Origin** ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

**Second House** ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron: Carrico, C.**

**3. Committee: House Transportation**

**4. Title: Signs with locality web addresses**

**5. Summary/Purpose:**

A bill to allow local governing bodies to attach a supplemental sign displaying internet web addresses on traffic control signage (exit signs) on controlled access highways and to erect welcome signs with additional phrases or web addresses on and off highway right of way.

**6. Fiscal Impacts are unavailable**

**7. Budget amendment necessary: NO**

**8. Fiscal implications:** The Federal Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) prohibits the display of any messages not relating to traffic control, including web addresses on traffic control devices such as exit signs. The MUTCD states that "traffic control devices shall not bear any advertising message or any other message that is not related to traffic control...internet addresses shall not be shown on any sign, supplemental plaque, sign panel (including logo panels on specific service signs), or changeable message sign."

An option in the MUTCD allows the use of internet addresses and phone numbers of more than four characters on signs intended for viewing only by pedestrians, bicyclists, occupants of parked vehicles, or drivers of vehicles on low speed roadways where engineering judgment indicates that drivers can reasonably and safely stop out of the traffic flow to read the message.

Failure of VDOT to follow MUTCD guidance could result in the loss of federal funding.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: VDOT, all localities in Commonwealth**

**10. Technical amendment necessary: NO**

**11. Other comments:** This bill is identical to HB 692.

**Date:** 01/09/2008

**Revision Date:**

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cc: Secretary of Transportation