

Roy Cooper, Governor State of North Carolina

GOVERNOR ROY COOPER OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE:

House Bill 198, "AN ACT TO MAKE CHANGES TO TRANSPORTATION LAWS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION."

Protecting North Carolina's beauty should be a top priority, but this legislation allows tree cutting and destruction of native plants around billboards. In February, I signed Executive Order 305, which sets comprehensive goals for restoring and protecting natural areas, prioritizing native plants and planting one million trees. North Carolina's scenic landscapes are one of the reasons why our state just broke records with our tourism economy, and why we have one of the most beautiful places in the world to live.

Therefore, I veto the bill.

Roy Cooper Governor

The bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina House on this the 23 day of May 2024, at 3:18 PM for reconsideration by that body.

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The Capitol Building, Raleigh, NC 27602 Mail: 20301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-0301 Phone: (919)814-2100 PECEIVED FROM

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