

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT[761]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to signing for Iowa medal of honor highway

The Transportation Department hereby rescinds Chapter 131, “Signing on Primary Highways,” and adopts a new Chapter 131, “Signing for Iowa Medal of Honor Highway,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 307.12(1)“j” and 314.31.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 314.31.

Purpose and Summary

This rulemaking repromulgates Chapter 131 in compliance with Executive Order 10. Chapter 131 lays out uniform requirements, responsibilities, and procedures for requesting the installation of Medal of Honor signs on U.S. Route 20 across Iowa. The purpose of these signs is to raise awareness of the brave members of the U.S. armed forces that defend our country.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on December 11, 2024, as **ARC 8467C**. Two public hearings were held on the following date:

- January 6, 2025

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Department on March 11, 2025.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Department for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 761—Chapter 11.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee’s meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on May 21, 2025.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 761—Chapter 131 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 131
SIGNING FOR IOWA MEDAL OF HONOR HIGHWAY

761—131.1(314) Contact information. Information regarding the signing addressed in this chapter is available from: Traffic and Safety Bureau, Iowa Department of Transportation, 800 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50010. Submissions to the traffic and safety bureau may also be sent or delivered to this address. Additional information and guidance may be found at www.iowadot.gov/traffic/Library/Traffic-and-Safety-Manual.

761—131.2(314) Signing. This rule establishes the conditions and procedures for private entities to purchase and pay for the installation of signs designating the Iowa medal of honor highway.

131.2(1) Definition.

“*Iowa medal of honor highway*” means the segment of the highway known as United States Highway 20, as designated as of June 17, 2020, that crosses this state from Sioux City to Dubuque.

131.2(2) Conditions.

a. The number of signs within the highway right-of-way is limited to one sign at each end of the Iowa medal of honor highway for traffic entering the state and one sign at each entry point of the corporate limits of each city through which the Iowa medal of honor highway passes.

b. Each sign is to match the design approved and provided by the department, and the sign materials are to comply with departmental standard specifications as they exist at the time of fabrication. The departmental standard specifications can be found on the department’s electronic reference library at www.iowadot.gov/erl.

c. Once signs are installed at one of the approved locations, no additional requests will be accepted for that location. When signs have been installed at all locations identified in paragraph 131.2(2)“a,” no further requests will be accepted.

d. The applicant may purchase a sign from the department’s sign shop or from a private sign fabricator. If an applicant chooses to obtain a sign from a private sign fabricator, the department will furnish the sign design and approve the construction prior to purchase. The department will also inspect the sign as stated in subrule 131.2(5).

e. Signs designating the Iowa medal of honor highway are furnished and paid for by the applicants, including any replacements needed due to sign deterioration or damage. Each applicant is responsible for providing the traffic and safety bureau with the applicant’s current contact information so the applicant can be contacted when a replacement sign is needed. Failure to provide current information may result in removal of all signs the applicant purchased. This would allow a new private entity to sponsor the signing.

f. The applicant is responsible for the cost to install the sign, including the posts and hardware.

g. The department will install the sign.

131.2(3) Procedures. Requests to purchase or install a sign are submitted to the traffic and safety bureau and contain the following:

a. The applicant’s name and contact information.

b. A description of the location where the sign is to be installed.

c. A statement as to whether the sign will be purchased from the department or from a private sign fabricator.

131.2(4) Approval. If the request complies with this rule, the traffic and safety bureau will respond to the applicant with approval of the proposed location or modified location and an estimate of the costs

for the sign and installation. Following inspection of the sign in compliance with subrule 131.2(5), the department will install the sign and bill the applicant.

131.2(5) *Inspection.* If a sign is not purchased from the department's sign shop, the applicant is to deliver the sign to the department's sign shop for inspection. Upon receipt of the sign, the department will inspect the sign for compliance with the approved sign design and departmental specifications and notify the applicant.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 314.31.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 4/16/25.