

Ordinance No. 663 provides for the appointment of a Commission on Signs and authorizes such Commission to exercise the power and authority vested in it under the ordinance in a prescribed area in Baltimore City.

Paragraph (d) of the ordinance states that:

"The Commission, after public notice and hearing, may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations establishing standards and requirements for commercial signs, billboards, and other advertising structures and devices within the area described in this section. Any such rules and regulations shall be designed and intended to provide for beauty, attractiveness, esthetics, and symmetry in the commercial signs, billboards, and other advertising structures and devices, and to relieve conditions of gaudiness and drabness in certain portions of the defined area."

Paragraph (e) provides that certain advertising structures or devices shall be unlawful, but the provisions of said paragraph do not apply to the type and kind of sign involved in the instant case.

Paragraph (f) reads:

"An illuminated or non-illuminated projecting, or free-standing standardized sign, of single or double-face construction, not more than 12 inches in thickness, shall be permitted to designate public parking facilities; such sign to measure not more than four feet in height or width and to project no more than five feet."

We have been informed that while members of the Commission have been appointed by the Mayor, they have not been confirmed by the City Council as required. Thus, the Commission has not yet been legally established, and of course, no rules or regulations have been promulgated as contemplated by the ordinance.

- It is evident on the face of the legislation that the overall intent is to control commercial advertising structures.