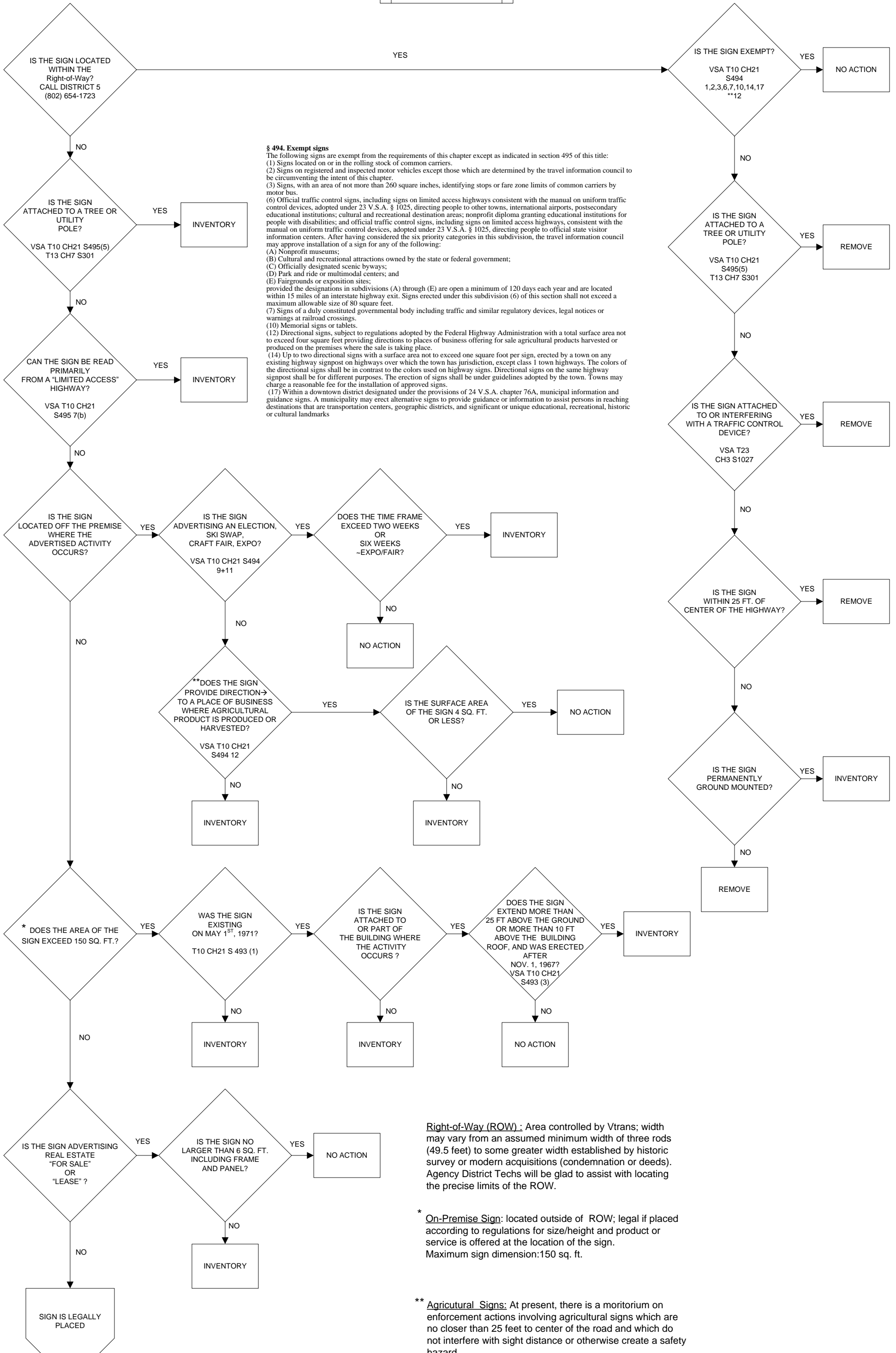


# Illegal Sign Decision Flowchart



**§ 494. Exempt signs**  
 The following signs are exempt from the requirements of this chapter except as indicated in section 495 of this title:  
 (1) Signs located on or in the rolling stock of common carriers.  
 (2) Signs on registered and inspected motor vehicles except those which are determined by the travel information council to be circumventing the intent of this chapter.  
 (3) Signs, with an area of not more than 260 square inches, identifying stops or fare zone limits of common carriers by motor bus.  
 (6) Official traffic control signs, including signs on limited access highways consistent with the manual on uniform traffic control devices, adopted under 23 V.S.A. § 1025, directing people to other towns, international airports, postsecondary educational institutions; cultural and recreational destination areas; nonprofit diploma granting educational institutions for people with disabilities; and official traffic control signs, including signs on limited access highways, consistent with the manual on uniform traffic control devices, adopted under 23 V.S.A. § 1025, directing people to official state visitor information centers. After having considered the six priority categories in this subdivision, the travel information council may approve installation of a sign for any of the following:  
 (A) Nonprofit museums;  
 (B) Cultural and recreational attractions owned by the state or federal government;  
 (C) Officially designated scenic byways;  
 (D) Park and ride or multimodal centers; and  
 (E) Fairgrounds or exposition sites;  
 provided the designations in subdivisions (A) through (E) are open a minimum of 120 days each year and are located within 15 miles of an interstate highway exit. Signs erected under this subdivision (6) of this section shall not exceed a maximum allowable size of 80 square feet.  
 (7) Signs of a duly constituted governmental body including traffic and similar regulatory devices, legal notices or warnings at railroad crossings.  
 (10) Memorial signs or tablets.  
 (12) Directional signs, subject to regulations adopted by the Federal Highway Administration with a total surface area not to exceed four square feet providing directions to places of business offering for sale agricultural products harvested or produced on the premises where the sale is taking place.  
 (14) Up to two directional signs with a surface area not to exceed one square foot per sign, erected by a town on any existing highway signpost on highways over which the town has jurisdiction, except class 1 town highways. The colors of the directional signs shall be in contrast to the colors used on highway signs. Directional signs on the same highway signpost shall be for different purposes. The erection of signs shall be under guidelines adopted by the town. Towns may charge a reasonable fee for the installation of approved signs.  
 (17) Within a downtown district designated under the provisions of 24 V.S.A. chapter 76A, municipal information and guidance signs. A municipality may erect alternative signs to provide guidance or information to assist persons in reaching destinations that are transportation centers, geographic districts, and significant or unique educational, recreational, historic or cultural landmarks

**Right-of-Way (ROW) :** Area controlled by Vtrans; width may vary from an assumed minimum width of three rods (49.5 feet) to some greater width established by historic survey or modern acquisitions (condemnation or deeds). Agency District Techs will be glad to assist with locating the precise limits of the ROW.

\* **On-Premise Sign:** located outside of ROW; legal if placed according to regulations for size/height and product or service is offered at the location of the sign. Maximum sign dimension:150 sq. ft.

\*\* **Agricultural Signs:** At present, there is a moratorium on enforcement actions involving agricultural signs which are no closer than 25 feet to center of the road and which do not interfere with sight distance or otherwise create a safety hazard