

CHAPTER 1096
CIVIL RIGHTS REVISION
H.F. 2466

AN ACT relating to the definition of public accommodation and extending the time for bringing an action under the Iowa civil rights law.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 601A.2, subsection 10, Code 1983, is amended to read as follows:

10. "Public accommodation" means each and every place, establishment, or facility of whatever kind, nature, or class that caters or offers services, facilities, or goods ~~to the general public~~ for a fee or charge to nonmembers of any organization or association utilizing the place, establishment, or facility, provided that any place, establishment, or facility that caters or offers services, facilities, or goods to the ~~general public~~ nonmembers gratuitously shall be deemed a public accommodation if the accommodation receives ~~any substantial~~ governmental support or subsidy. Public accommodation shall not mean any bona fide private club or other place, establishment, or facility which is by its nature distinctly private, except when such distinctly private place, establishment, or facility caters or offers services, facilities, or goods to the ~~general public~~ nonmembers for fee or charge or gratuitously, it shall be deemed a public accommodation during such period.

"Public accommodation" includes each state and local government unit or tax-supported district of whatever kind, nature, or class that offers services, facilities, benefits, grants or goods to the public, gratuitously or otherwise. This paragraph shall not be construed by negative implication or otherwise to restrict any part or portion of the pre-existing definition of the term "public accommodation".

Sec. 2. Section 601A.16, subsection 3, Code 1983, is amended to read as follows:

3. An action authorized under this section is barred unless commenced within ninety days after issuance by the commission of a release under subsection 2 of this section ~~or within one year after the filing of the complaint, whichever occurs first~~. If a complainant obtains a release from the commission under subsection 2 of this section, the commission ~~shall be~~ is barred from further action on that complaint.

Approved April 17, 1984