RA 26-394

FAIR BOARD[371]

Regulatory Analysis

Notice of Intended Action to be published: 371—Chapter 8
"Admittance and Use of Fairgrounds"

Iowa Code section(s) or chapter(s) authorizing rulemaking: 173.14, 173.14A(7), and 173.17
State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: Iowa Code chapter 173

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

December 1, 2026 11 to 11:30 a.m.	Microsoft Teams meeting teams.microsoft.com/meet/284948346636326?p=3dtap1LeQ4hdthk7kH Meeting ID: 284 948 346 636 326 Passcode: so2iy3TJ

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this Regulatory Analysis, which must be received by the Fair Board no later than 4:30 p.m. on the date of the public hearing. Comments should be directed to:

Jeremy Parsons
Iowa State Fair
P.O. Box 57130
Des Moines, Iowa 50317
Email: jparsons@iowastatefair.org

Purpose and Summary

This proposed chapter describes the rules established for admittance and use of the Iowa State Fairgrounds. This proposed chapter was reviewed as part of the Red Tape Review process laid out in Executive Order 10. As a result of this review, restrictive terms were removed, areas that were duplicative were combined or eliminated, and editorial updates were made to processes and procedures to ensure they reflect current policies and procedures.

Analysis of Impact

1. **Persons affected by the proposed rulemaking:**

- **Classes of persons that will bear the costs of the proposed rulemaking:**

There are no costs associated with this proposed rulemaking.

- **Classes of persons that will benefit from the proposed rulemaking:**

Iowans who attend the Iowa State Fair will benefit from having clear, concise, and accurate rules that comply with the Iowa Code.

2. **Impact of the proposed rulemaking, economic or otherwise, including the nature and amount of all the different kinds of costs that would be incurred:**

- **Quantitative description of impact:**

This proposed rulemaking will help ensure a safe environment for all who attend events at the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

- **Qualitative description of impact:**

This proposed rulemaking will help ensure a safe environment for all who attend events at the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

3. **Costs to the State:**

- **Implementation and enforcement costs borne by the agency or any other agency:**

No costs are expected.

- **Anticipated effect on State revenues:**

There is no anticipated effect on State revenues.

4. **Comparison of the costs and benefits of the proposed rulemaking to the costs and benefits of inaction:**

The benefit will be an updated chapter reviewed in compliance with Executive Order 10 and the current Iowa Code.

5. **Determination whether less costly methods or less intrusive methods exist for achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking:**

Not applicable.

6. **Alternative methods considered by the agency:**

- **Description of any alternative methods that were seriously considered by the agency:**

Not applicable.

- **Reasons why alternative methods were rejected in favor of the proposed rulemaking:**

There are no alternatives because this review is required by Executive Order 10.

Small Business Impact

If the rulemaking will have a substantial impact on small business, include a discussion of whether it would be feasible and practicable to do any of the following to reduce the impact of the rulemaking on small business:

- Establish less stringent compliance or reporting requirements in the rulemaking for small business.
- Establish less stringent schedules or deadlines in the rulemaking for compliance or reporting requirements for small business.
- Consolidate or simplify the rulemaking's compliance or reporting requirements for small business.
- Establish performance standards to replace design or operational standards in the rulemaking for small business.
- Exempt small business from any or all requirements of the rulemaking.

If legal and feasible, how does the rulemaking use a method discussed above to reduce the substantial impact on small business?

There is no expected impact on small business.

Text of Proposed Rulemaking

ITEM 1. Rescind 371—Chapter 8 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 8
ADMITTANCE AND USE OF FAIRGROUNDS

371—8.1(173) Curfew. During the Iowa state fair, a curfew will be in force from 1 a.m. to 5 a.m. daily; only those persons with business may remain on the Iowa state fairgrounds, including owners and caretakers of exhibits, guards, persons registered at dormitories, fair officials and employees.

371—8.2(173) Admittance to grounds. Year-round admittance to the Iowa state fairgrounds may be made for justified and lawful purposes. The fair board reserves the right to restrict admittance during the fair, special events, and during the hours of darkness. Failure to comply with this rule shall be cause for expulsion from the Iowa state fairgrounds or being charged under Iowa Code chapter 716.

371—8.3(173) Metal detectors. The use of metal detectors on the Iowa state fairgrounds is prohibited at all times unless approved in writing by the fair board.

371—8.4(173) Drones. The use of drones on the Iowa state fairgrounds is prohibited at all times unless approved in writing by the fair board.

371—8.5(173) Bag searches. The Iowa state fair reserves the right to search all bags, backpacks, coolers, purses, containers, etc., upon entry to the Iowa state fair and upon request while on the Iowa state fairgrounds. Refusal to comply will result in denied entry. There will be additional bag searches upon entering the main gates and the grandstand.

371—8.6(173) Pets.

8.6(1) No privately owned animals or pets shall be allowed to run at large on the Iowa state fairgrounds or upon lands under the jurisdiction of the fair board except by permission of the fair board.

a. Such animals shall be on a leash or chain not to exceed six feet in length and shall either be led or carried by the owner or confined in a vehicle.

b. Any animal found running at large will be subject to confinement and will be turned over to the animal shelter.

c. No animals, except service animals providing guide or assistive service to a person who requires accommodation for a disability, may be taken into any building on the Iowa state fairgrounds.

8.6(2) During the Iowa state fair, no pets shall be brought onto the Iowa state fairgrounds or upon lands under the jurisdiction of the fair board except as follows:

a. Pets may be brought onto land designated as Iowa state fair campgrounds by the fair board. Pets brought onto Iowa state fair campgrounds are subject to Iowa state fair campground rules and shall not be allowed to run at large.

b. Pets or other privately owned animals shall be permitted access to those portions of the Iowa state fairgrounds as is necessary for those animals to participate in competitions, exhibitions, shows, or to provide entertainment services sanctioned or approved by the fair board, provided such animals are not allowed to run at large or be left unattended on Iowa state fair lands.

8.6(3) Regardless of the preceding provisions, animals that are providing guide or assistive services to a person who requires accommodation for a disability to the Iowa state fairgrounds or other lands under the jurisdiction of the fair board will be allowed admittance.

8.6(4) Persons bringing pets onto the Iowa state fairgrounds or upon lands under the jurisdiction of the fair board shall clean up and dispose of all animal waste attributable to the persons' pets.

8.6(5) Persons failing to comply with the fair board's pet policies may be denied admission to the Iowa state fairgrounds or may be barred from bringing the persons' pets onto Iowa state fair lands.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 173.14.