

FILED MAR 13 1997

SENATE FILE **447**
BY CONNOLLY

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act limiting the civil liability of bowling center operators
2 who post notices and comply with certain safety standards.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SE. 447

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 671A.1 DEFINITIONS.

2 As used in this chapter:

3 1. "Bowler" means a person engaged in the sport of bowling
4 while in a bowling center.

5 2. "Bowling" means the sport wherein a heavy ball is
6 rolled along a bowling lane in an attempt to knock over ten
7 bowling pins placed upright at the far end of the lane,
8 according to specified regulations and rules of the American
9 bowling congress, the women's international bowling congress,
10 or the bowling proprietors association of America.

11 3. "Bowling center" means a place of business having at
12 least twelve bowling lanes on the premises which are used for
13 the purpose of bowling.

14 4. "Bowling center operator" means a person that owns,
15 controls, manages, or is responsible for the operation of a
16 bowling center.

17 5. "Other customer" means a person who is present in a
18 bowling center, but is not an employee of the bowling center,
19 a spectator, or a bowler.

20 6. "Spectator" means a person who is observing bowling
21 within a bowling center.

22 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 671A.2 LIABILITY OF BOWLING CENTER
23 OPERATOR.

24 1. A bowling center operator may conspicuously post within
25 a bowling center a sign containing the following:

26 NOTICE

27 BOWLERS, SPECTATORS, AND OTHER CUSTOMERS OF THE BOWLING
28 CENTER ASSUME THE RISKS THAT ARE INHERENT IN THE SPORT OF
29 BOWLING, AND IN BEING WITHIN A BOWLING CENTER. A BOWLING
30 CENTER OPERATOR IS NOT LIABLE FOR INJURIES OR DAMAGE THAT
31 RESULTS FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF BOWLING.

32 2. A bowling center operator shall not be civilly liable
33 for any damages resulting from the inherent risks of bowling
34 if the bowling center operator complies with all of the
35 following:

- 1 a. Posts signs according to subsection 1.
- 2 b. Complies with the safety standards specified in the
- 3 bowling safety standards published by the bowling proprietors
- 4 association of America.
- 5 c. Properly maintains all bowling equipment and bowling
- 6 surfaces.
- 7 d. Complies with all applicable state and local safety
- 8 codes.

9 EXPLANATION

10 This bill creates a new chapter that provides that the
11 operator of a bowling center shall not be civilly liable for
12 damages from actions resulting from the inherent risks of
13 bowling if the operator posts a sign disclaiming such
14 liability and complies with certain safety standards.

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