

House File 12 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 12

BY COWNIE

A BILL FOR

1 An Act to prohibit political telephone calls during the
2 nighttime hours and making penalties applicable.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 68A.507 Restrictions on telephone
2 calls made for campaign purposes.

3 1. A person shall not make a telephone call intended to
4 urge the recipient to expressly advocate, as defined in section
5 68A.102, subsection 14, paragraph "b", the election or defeat
6 of a candidate or the passage or defeat of a ballot issue
7 beginning at ten p.m. and ending at eight a.m. the next day.

8 2. "*Telephone call*" means a call made using or received on
9 a telecommunications service or voice over internet protocol
10 service.

11 3. A person who violates this section is subject to sections
12 68A.701 and 68B.32D.

13 EXPLANATION

14 This bill would prohibit telephone calls intended to urge
15 the recipient to expressly advocate the election or defeat of a
16 candidate or the passage or defeat of a ballot issue between
17 the hours of 10 p.m. and 8 a.m.

18 As provided in Code section 68A.701, a willful violation
19 of any provision of the campaign finance chapter is a serious
20 misdemeanor punishable by confinement for up to one year and
21 a fine of at least \$315 but not more than \$1,875. A variety
22 of civil remedies are also available in Code section 68B.32D
23 for a violation of Code chapter 68A or rules of the ethics and
24 campaign disclosure board, ranging from a reprimand to a civil
25 penalty of not more than \$2,000.