

House File 22 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 22
BY WINDSCHITL

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to walking and horseback riding trails on
2 public land under the jurisdiction of the natural resource
3 commission, and providing for penalties.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 481A.6B Walking and horseback
2 riding on public land.

3 1. a. Walking and horseback riding shall be allowed on
4 all public land under the jurisdiction of the commission. The
5 commission, by rule, shall designate walking and horseback
6 riding trails and post proper signage for the walking
7 and horseback riding trails on all public land under the
8 jurisdiction of the commission. The commission shall by rule
9 determine where such trails shall be located and under what
10 conditions the trails may be used for walking and horseback
11 riding, consistent with sound game and land management
12 practices and federal requirements for such areas. A person
13 walking or horseback riding on such public land shall use only
14 trails officially designated and properly signed for such use.

15 b. An individual or group of individuals may request a
16 special use off-trail walking or horseback riding permit by
17 submitting an application to the department specifying where
18 the proposed off-trail walking or horseback riding event is to
19 take place. The commission, by rule, shall determine under
20 what conditions off-trail walking or horseback riding may be
21 approved on public land under the commission's jurisdiction.

22 c. For the purposes of this section, "horseback riding"
23 means the riding of any equine animal including horses, mules,
24 burros, donkeys, and all llamas or alpaca-like animals.

25 2. An individual or group of individuals that is issued a
26 special use off-trail walking or horseback riding permit shall
27 contact the department not more than twenty-four hours prior to
28 the time of the proposed off-trail walking or horseback riding
29 event for information about current conditions in the area.
30 The department may exercise discretion, as determined by the
31 commission by rule, to rescind a special permit, or to relocate
32 or reschedule an off-trail walking or horseback riding event
33 based on current conditions in the area.

34 Sec. 2. Section 805.8B, subsection 3, paragraph c, Code
35 2011, is amended to read as follows:

1 c. For violations of sections 481A.6, 481A.6B, 481A.21,
2 481A.22, 481A.26, 481A.50, 481A.56, 481A.60 through 481A.62,
3 481A.83, 481A.84, 481A.92, 481A.123, 481A.145, subsection 3,
4 sections 483A.7, 483A.8, 483A.23, 483A.24, and 483A.28, the
5 scheduled fine is twenty-five dollars.

6

EXPLANATION

7 This bill relates to walking and horseback riding on public
8 land under the jurisdiction of the natural resource commission.
9 The bill requires the natural resource commission, by rule, to
10 designate walking and horseback riding trails and post signage
11 for such trails on all public land under the commission's
12 jurisdiction in the state. The commission, by rule, shall
13 determine where such trails shall be located and under what
14 conditions the trails may be used for walking or horseback
15 riding, consistent with sound game and land management
16 practices and federal requirements for such areas. A walker or
17 horseback rider must use designated trails.

18 The commission is also authorized to make available a
19 special use off-trail walking or horseback riding permit upon
20 the request of an individual or group of individuals to the
21 department of natural resources specifying where the proposed
22 off-trail walking or horseback riding event is to take place.
23 The commission, by rule, shall determine under what conditions
24 off-trail walking or horseback riding may be approved in
25 such areas. An individual or group of individuals that is
26 issued such a special use permit is required to contact the
27 department not more than 24 hours prior to the time of the
28 event for information about current conditions in the area.
29 The department may exercise discretion, as determined by the
30 commission by rule, to rescind the permit, or to relocate or
31 reschedule the event based on current conditions in the area.

32 For the purposes of the bill, "horseback riding" means the
33 riding of any equine animal including horses, mules, burros,
34 donkeys, and all llamas or alpaca-like animals.

35 A violation of the bill's provisions is punishable by a

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1 scheduled fine of \$25.