

House File 2397 - Introduced

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BY JACOBSEN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to closed captioning in places of public
2 accommodation, and making penalties applicable.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 216C.13 Closed captioning required.

2 A public accommodation, as that term is defined in section
3 216.2, subsection 13, shall enable closed captioning for all
4 television programming and online broadcasts that are provided
5 for viewing by members of the public during hours during
6 which the public accommodation is open to the public unless a
7 member of the public asks that closed captioning be disabled
8 on a specific device. In the event of such a request, closed
9 captioning shall be enabled again once the member of the public
10 who requested that closed captioning be disabled discontinues
11 viewing or leaves the public accommodation.

12 EXPLANATION

13 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
14 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

15 This bill requires all public accommodations that provide
16 television programming and online broadcasts for viewing by
17 members of the public to enable closed captioning on devices
18 viewable by the public during business hours unless a member
19 of the public asks that closed captioning be disabled on
20 a specific device, in which case closed captioning shall
21 be enabled again when the member of the public who made
22 the request discontinues viewing or leaves the public
23 accommodation.

24 By operation of law, a person who violates a provision of the
25 bill is guilty of a simple misdemeanor. A simple misdemeanor
26 is punishable by confinement for no more than 30 days at a time
27 of at least \$65 but not more than \$625 or by both.