

Senate File 2079 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2079

BY NUNN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act prohibiting the state and political subdivisions of
2 the state from accepting payment in the form of virtual
3 currency.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 8H.1 Prohibition on the acceptance
2 of virtual currency.

3 The state and a political subdivision of the state shall only
4 accept payment in the form of cash.

5 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 8H.2 Definitions.

6 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise
7 requires:

8 1. "Cash" means United States currency. "Cash" does not
9 include virtual currency, regardless of whether such virtual
10 currency has an equivalent value in legal tender.

11 2. "Political subdivision" means a city, county, township,
12 or school district.

13 3. "Virtual currency" means a digital representation
14 of value that functions as a medium of exchange, a unit of
15 account, or a store of value, but is not legal tender in the
16 United States.

17 Sec. 3. Section 8B.22, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code 2020,
18 is amended to read as follows:

19 a. Establish standards, consistent with other state law, for
20 the implementation of electronic commerce, including standards
21 for electronic signatures, electronic currency payments, and
22 other items associated with electronic commerce.

23 EXPLANATION

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

26 This bill prohibits the state and its political subdivisions
27 from accepting payments in the form of virtual currency. The
28 bill provides the state and a political subdivision of the
29 state shall only accept payment in the form of cash.

30 The bill defines "cash" as United States currency, but
31 excludes virtual currency from the definition, regardless
32 of whether such virtual currency has an equivalent value in
33 legal tender. The bill defines "political subdivision" as a
34 city, county, township, or school district. The bill defines
35 "virtual currency" as a digital representation of value that

1 functions as a medium of exchange, a unit of account, or a
2 store of value, but is not legal tender in the United States.

3 The bill also amends Code section 8B.22, subsection 2,
4 paragraph "a", to indicate the office of the chief information
5 officer, in establishing standards for the implementation of
6 electronic commerce, is not to establish such standards for
7 electronic currency. Instead, the office is to establish such
8 standards for electronic payments.