

**Senate File 247 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 247

BY BOLKCOM

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to certain billiard or pool tournaments and  
2 providing penalties.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 99B.33 Billiard or pool  
2 tournaments.

3 1. A person shall not host, conduct, or otherwise facilitate  
4 a billiard or pool tournament in this state with at least  
5 sixty-four tournament participants without first obtaining a  
6 license from the department.

7 a. Upon receipt of an application and a fee of one hundred  
8 dollars for a billiard or pool tournament license, the  
9 department may issue an annual license. The application shall  
10 include the name, phone number, electronic mail address, and  
11 physical address of the applicant.

12 b. Upon receipt of an application and a fee of one  
13 hundred dollars for the renewal of an annual billiard or pool  
14 tournament license, the department may renew an annual license.  
15 The application shall include all of the following:

16 (1) The name, phone number, electronic mail address, and  
17 physical address of the applicant.

18 (2) The number of tournaments the applicant conducted  
19 during the previous year.

20 (3) For each tournament conducted during the previous  
21 calendar year, the names of the top five finishers in each  
22 group.

23 (4) For each tournament conducted during the previous  
24 calendar year, the amount of prize money the applicant paid to  
25 the top five finishers in each group.

26 (5) For each tournament conducted during the previous  
27 calendar year, the amount of money the applicant charged  
28 participants to participate in the tournament.

29 2. A person hosting, conducting, or otherwise facilitating  
30 a billiard or pool tournament subject to this section shall:

31 a. Organize participants in the tournament into groups  
32 based on the skill level of the participants. The groups shall  
33 include standard, open, advanced, and master.

34 b. Pay out in prizes to participants during each tournament  
35 at least eighty percent of the total amount the person charged

1 participants to participate in the tournament. The person  
2 shall pay out in prizes equal amounts to participants in each  
3 group provided in paragraph "a".

4 c. If the tournament includes participants competing as a  
5 team, register the team in the group corresponding to the group  
6 in which the participant with the highest skill level on the  
7 team would compete individually.

8 d. Publish all of the following on the person's internet  
9 site:

10 (1) How the person determines the skill level of the  
11 participants in a tournament.

12 (2) The names of the participants in each group who placed  
13 in the top three percent of their group in a tournament.

14 (3) Contact information for the department and information  
15 related to the system developed by the department pursuant to  
16 subsection 4.

17 3. A person hosting, conducting, or otherwise facilitating  
18 a billiard or pool tournament subject to this section shall not  
19 charge a participant in a tournament to challenge what group  
20 another participant should be included in.

21 4. The department shall make available on its internet site  
22 a system to allow individuals to report potential violations of  
23 this section.

24 5. The department may assess a civil penalty for a violation  
25 of this section in an amount not to exceed five thousand  
26 dollars for each violation. The provisions of section 99B.4  
27 shall not apply to a violation of this section.

28 6. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A  
29 to administer and interpret this section.

30 EXPLANATION

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

33 This bill relates to certain billiard or pool tournaments.

34 The bill creates new Code section 99B.33. The bill prohibits  
35 a person from hosting, conducting, or otherwise facilitating

1 a billiard or pool tournament in this state with at least 64  
2 tournament participants without first obtaining a license from  
3 the department of inspections and appeals.

4 The bill authorizes the department to issue an annual  
5 license for a tournament upon receipt of an application and  
6 a fee of \$100. The bill requires the application to include  
7 the name, phone number, electronic mail address, and physical  
8 address of the applicant.

9 The bill authorizes the department to renew an annual  
10 license for a tournament upon receipt of an application and a  
11 fee of \$100. The bill requires the application to include:  
12 the name, phone number, electronic mail address, and physical  
13 address of the applicant; the number of tournaments the  
14 applicant conducted the previous year; for each tournament  
15 conducted during the previous calendar year, the names of the  
16 top five finishers in each group; for each tournament conducted  
17 during the previous calendar year, the amount of prize money  
18 the applicant paid to the top five finishers in each group;  
19 and for each tournament conducted during the previous calendar  
20 year, the amount of money the applicant charged participants to  
21 participate in the tournament.

22 The bill requires a person hosting, conducting, or otherwise  
23 facilitating a tournament to do all of the following: organize  
24 participants in the tournament into groups based on the skill  
25 level of the participants; pay out in prizes to participants  
26 during each tournament at least 80 percent of the total entry  
27 fees; if the tournament includes participants competing as  
28 a team, register the team in the group corresponding to the  
29 group in which the participant with the highest skill level  
30 on the team would compete individually; and publish certain  
31 information on the person's internet site related to the  
32 participants in the tournament and information related to the  
33 department.

34 The bill prohibits a person hosting, conducting, or  
35 otherwise facilitating a tournament from charging a participant

1 to challenge what group another participant should be included  
2 in.

3 The bill requires the department to make available on its  
4 internet site a system to allow individuals to report potential  
5 violations of new Code section 99B.3.

6 The bill authorizes the department to assess a civil penalty  
7 for a violation of new Code section 99B.3 in an amount not to  
8 exceed \$5,000 for each violation. The bill provides that the  
9 provisions of Code section 99B.4, which provides additional  
10 penalties, shall not apply to a violation of new Code section  
11 99B.3. Pursuant to new Code section 99B.3, a violation of  
12 new Code section 99B.33 may lead to the department denying,  
13 suspending, or revoking a license issued pursuant to new  
14 Code section 99B.33. Additionally, if the person hosting,  
15 conducting, or otherwise facilitating a tournament has been  
16 issued a liquor control license, a violation of new Code  
17 section 99B.33 could lead to suspension of the liquor control  
18 license.

19 The bill grants the department the authority to adopt  
20 rules to administer and interpret the bill. If interpretive  
21 rulemaking authority is clearly vested in the discretion of an  
22 agency by statute, the applicable judicial standard of review  
23 is whether the rules constitute an irrational, illogical, or  
24 wholly unjustifiable interpretation of law by the agency (Code  
25 section 17A.19(10)(1)). If interpretive rulemaking authority  
26 is not clearly vested in the discretion of an agency, the  
27 applicable judicial standard of review is whether the rules  
28 constitute an erroneous interpretation of law (Code section  
29 17A.19(10)(c)).