

House Study Bill 630 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON BLOOMINGDALE)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to fantasy sports contests and internet fantasy
2 sports contest players.

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

1 Section 1. Section 99E.1, subsection 3, Code 2024, is
2 amended by striking the subsection and inserting in lieu
3 thereof the following:

4 3. a. "*Fantasy sports contest*" means any internet fantasy
5 or simulated game or contest of skill for which all of the
6 following are true:

7 (1) All players are required to pay an entry fee in order
8 to participate.

9 (2) The values of all prizes and awards offered to winning
10 players are established and made known to the players in
11 advance of the contest.

12 (3) All winning outcomes reflect the relative knowledge and
13 skill of the players.

14 (4) All players assemble, own, or manage a fictional entry
15 or roster of actual professional or amateur athletes in any of
16 the following:

17 (a) A real-world sporting event.

18 (b) An organized video game competition that is regulated by
19 a governing body and that is held between professional athletes
20 who play individually or as teams.

21 (5) Players compete for prizes awarded by a fantasy sports
22 contest operator based on terms and conditions published by the
23 fantasy sports contest operator and made known to all players
24 prior to the contest.

25 (6) All winning outcomes are determined solely by clearly
26 established scoring criteria based on one or more statistical
27 results of the performance of an individual athlete, including
28 but not limited to a fantasy score, and are not solely based
29 on the score, point spread, or performance or performances of
30 any single actual team or combination of teams, or solely on
31 any single performance of an individual athlete in any single
32 actual event.

33 b. "*Fantasy sports contest*" includes but is not limited to
34 contests in which multiple players compete against each other
35 and contests in which a single player competes against a target

1 score set by the fantasy sports contest operator.

2 Sec. 2. Section 99E.1, subsection 6, Code 2024, is amended
3 to read as follows:

4 6. a. "Internet fantasy sports contest player" or "player"
5 means a natural person who is at least twenty-one years of age
6 and participates in an internet fantasy sports contest operated
7 by an internet fantasy sports contest service provider.

8 b. "Internet fantasy sports contest player" or "player" does
9 not include an internet fantasy sports contest service provider
10 by virtue of the provider doing any of the following:

11 (1) Setting house rules for a fantasy sports contest.

12 (2) Assigning a salary or target score to an eligible
13 athlete.

14 (3) Accepting an entry fee from an internet fantasy sports
15 contest player.

16 (4) Awarding or disbursing prizes to a winning internet
17 fantasy sports contest player.

18 EXPLANATION

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

21 This bill relates to the definitions of "fantasy sports
22 contest" and "internet fantasy sports contest player".

23 Under current law, "fantasy sports contest" (contest)
24 is defined as any fantasy or simulated contest in which
25 the fantasy sports contest operator is not a participant in
26 the contest, the values of all prizes and awards offered to
27 winning participants are established and made known to the
28 participants in advance of the contest, all winning outcomes
29 reflect the relative knowledge and skill of the participants
30 and are determined by accumulated statistical results of the
31 performance of individuals, including athletes, and no winning
32 outcome is solely based on the score, point spread, or any
33 performance or performances of any single actual team or solely
34 on any single performance of an individual athlete or player
35 in any single actual event. Under the bill, the definition

1 of "fantasy sports contest" also requires that players pay
2 an entry fee to participate in the contest, and that all
3 players assemble, own, or manage a fictional entry or roster of
4 athletes in real-world sporting events or a regulated organized
5 video game competition held between professional athletes. The
6 bill provides that "fantasy sports contest" includes a contest
7 in which multiple players compete against each other and a
8 contest in which a single player competes against a target
9 score set by the fantasy sports contest operator.

10 Under current law, "internet fantasy sports contest player"
11 (player) is defined as a person who is at least 21 years of age
12 and participates in a contest operated by an internet fantasy
13 sports contest service provider (provider). Under the bill, a
14 player is a natural person who is at least 21 years of age and
15 participates in a contest operated by provider. A player does
16 not include a provider by virtue of the provider setting house
17 rules for a contest, assigning a salary or target score for
18 an athlete, accepting an entry fee from a player, or awarding
19 prizes to a winning player.