

**House File 148 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 148  
BY BAGNIEWSKI

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act regulating commercial transactions involving commercial  
2 sod containing entwined plastic netting, and providing  
3 penalties.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **199A.1 Definitions.**

2 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
3 requires:

4 1. "*Commercial sod*" or "*sod*" means any variety of grass  
5 planted on a layer of soil and cut into pallets or rolls for  
6 transport and permanent installation on land.

7 2. "*Department*" means the department of agriculture and land  
8 stewardship.

9 3. "*Entwined commercial sod*" means commercial sod that is  
10 entwined with plastic netting in a manner that increases its  
11 stability.

12 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **199A.2 Sales notice — offense.**

13 A person engaged in the business of selling commercial sod  
14 on a wholesale or retail basis shall not sell or offer for sale  
15 entwined commercial sod, unless the person notifies a person  
16 purchasing the sod that the sod is entwined commercial sod.

17 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. **199A.3 Installation notice —  
18 offense.**

19 A person engaged in the business of installing commercial  
20 sod on real property owned by another person shall not install  
21 entwined commercial sod on the real property, unless the person  
22 notifies a person owning the land that the commercial sod is  
23 entwined commercial sod.

24 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. **199A.4 Notice requirements.**

25 The department shall adopt rules providing requirements for  
26 the type of notice required under this chapter. The notice  
27 may be in the form of a label, conspicuously placed placard,  
28 or written statement that meets requirements established by the  
29 department.

30 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. **199A.5 Rules.**

31 The department shall adopt rules necessary or desirable to  
32 administer this chapter.

33 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. **199A.6 Penalty.**

34 A person committing a violation of this chapter is guilty of a  
35 simple misdemeanor punishable by a fine of five hundred dollars.

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EXPLANATION

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

This bill regulates certain commercial sod (sod) planted on a layer of soil and cut into pallets or rolls for transport and permanent installation on land. The bill's provisions are administered by the department of agriculture and land stewardship (DALs). It addresses two situations: first, the purchase of sod for later installation; and second, the purchase of the sod's installation. In each of the two situations, notice has to be provided to a purchaser if the sod is entwined with plastic netting. In the first situation, notice must be given to the purchaser of the sod by a person selling the sod; and in the second situation, notice must be given to the purchaser of the sod's installation by the person installing the sod. DALs is responsible for adopting rules providing for notice requirements. A person who violates a notice requirement is guilty of a simple misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$500.

