

**House File 25 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 25  
BY COLLINS

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the commission of a criminal offense while  
2 wearing a mask, clothing, or device to conceal the identity of  
3 the wearer, and providing penalties.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **701.14 Wearing of mask, clothing,**  
2 **or device that conceals identity of wearer.**

3 1. A person who is convicted of a criminal offense who  
4 intentionally concealed or attempted to conceal the person's  
5 identity by wearing a mask, or other clothing or device, for the  
6 purpose of facilitating the commission of the crime shall have  
7 the underlying criminal offense classified and punished as an  
8 offense one degree higher than the underlying offense.

9 2. This section shall not apply to any of the following:

- 10 a. A person wearing a traditional holiday costume in season.  
11 b. A person engaged in a trade or occupation for which a mask  
12 is worn for the purpose of ensuring the physical safety of the  
13 wearer, or because of the nature of the trade or occupation.  
14 c. A person using a mask in a theatrical production.  
15 d. A person wearing a gas mask prescribed in civil defense  
16 drills and exercises or emergencies.  
17 e. A person who is a member or member-elect of a society,  
18 order, or organization while engaged in any parade, ritual,  
19 initiation, ceremony, celebration, or requirement of such  
20 society, order, or organization and wearing or using any  
21 manner of costume, paraphernalia, disguise, facial makeup, hood,  
22 implement, or device, whether the identity of such person is  
23 concealed or not, on any public or private street, road, way,  
24 or property, or in any public or private building, provided  
25 permission shall have been first obtained by a representative of  
26 such society, order, or organization from the governing body of  
27 the municipality, as defined in section 403.17, in which the same  
28 takes place.  
29 f. A person wearing a medical or surgical grade mask for  
30 the purpose of preventing the spread of contagious disease or  
31 infection.  
32 g. A person wearing a mask for the purpose of protecting the  
33 person's head or face while operating a motorcycle.

34 EXPLANATION

35 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

1                   the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

2       This bill relates to the commission of a criminal offense  
3 while wearing a mask, clothing, or device to conceal the identity  
4 of the wearer.

5       The bill provides that a person who is convicted of a criminal  
6 offense who intentionally concealed or attempted to conceal the  
7 person's identity by wearing a mask, or other clothing or device,  
8 for the purpose of facilitating the commission of the crime shall  
9 have the underlying criminal offense classified and punished as  
10 an offense one degree higher than the underlying offense.

11       The bill exempts the following: a person wearing a  
12 traditional holiday costume in season; a person engaged in a  
13 trade or occupation for which a mask is worn for the purpose  
14 of ensuring the physical safety of the wearer, or because  
15 of the nature of the trade or occupation; a person using a  
16 mask in a theatrical production; a person wearing a gas mask  
17 prescribed in civil defense drills and exercises or emergencies;  
18 a person who is a member or member-elect of a society, order,  
19 or organization while engaged in any parade, ritual, initiation,  
20 ceremony, celebration, or requirement of such society, order,  
21 or organization and wearing or using any manner of costume,  
22 paraphernalia, disguise, facial makeup, hood, implement, or  
23 device, whether the identity of such person is concealed or not,  
24 on any public or private street, road, way, or property, or in  
25 any public or private building; a person wearing a medical or  
26 surgical grade mask for the purpose of preventing the spread  
27 of contagious disease or infection; or a person wearing a mask  
28 for the purpose of protecting the person's head or face while  
29 operating a motorcycle.