

**House Study Bill 49 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
JUDICIARY BILL BY CHAIRPERSON  
HOLT)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the place of trial for certain criminal  
2 offenses.

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

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 803.3, Code 2025, is amended by adding the  
2 following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 8. a. Except as otherwise provided in this  
4 section, if the county in which an offense was committed cannot  
5 be readily determined, trial of the offense shall be held in the  
6 county of residence of the victim.

7 b. If there is no victim, the victim is not a resident of  
8 this state, or the residence of the victim cannot be established,  
9 trial of the offense shall be held in the county of residence of  
10 the person charged with the offense.

11 c. If the victim is not a natural person, venue for trial  
12 of the offense is proper in any county where the victim has a  
13 physical presence.

14 d. If there is more than one victim, trial of the offenses  
15 may be held in any county in which a victim resides with the  
16 county of residence of a natural person taking priority over the  
17 county of residence of other victims.

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 place of trial for certain criminal  
22 offenses.

23 The bill provides that if the county in which an offense  
24 was committed cannot be readily determined, trial of the offense  
25 shall be held in the county of residence of the victim. If there  
26 is no victim, the victim is not a resident of this state, or  
27 the residence of the victim cannot be established, trial shall be  
28 held in the county of residence of the person charged with the  
29 offense. If the victim is not a natural person, venue for trial  
30 of the offense is proper in any county where the victim has a  
31 physical presence. If there is more than one victim, trial may  
32 be held in any county in which a victim resides with the county  
33 of residence of a natural person taking priority over the county  
34 of residence of other victims.