

House Study Bill 732 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
SAFETY BILL BY CHAIRPERSON
VONDRAN)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the establishment of an electronic court
2 notification system.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **602.1209B Electronic court**
2 **notification system.**

3 1. For purposes of this section:

4 a. "*Enrolled individuals*" means:

5 (1) Every person who receives a citation, is arrested,
6 or otherwise enters any criminal justice proceeding after the
7 establishment of an opt-out electronic court notification system
8 by the state court administrator.

9 (2) Every person who is a victim or witness associated with a
10 criminal justice proceeding.

11 (3) Any attorney representing a person in a criminal justice
12 proceeding or a legal guardian of a person involved in a criminal
13 justice proceeding.

14 b. "*Opt-out electronic court notification system*" means a
15 system designed and operated to inform enrolled individuals
16 through electronic, text-based notifications for criminal cases
17 in which such individuals are involved.

18 2. The state court administrator shall, by July 1, 2027,
19 establish an opt-out electronic court notification system for all
20 pending and future criminal case actions. The system shall meet
21 all of the following requirements:

22 a. Deliver text-based notifications to enrolled individuals
23 regarding all public case proceedings and events, including
24 appearance reminders containing the date, time, and location, and
25 notification of fees due and methods of payment.

26 b. Provide enrolled individuals with a clear and simple
27 option to opt out of receiving notifications through the
28 electronic court notification system.

29 c. Protect against the disclosure of nonpublic information,
30 including information filed in cases under seal.

31 d. Limit participation in the electronic court notification
32 system to enrolled individuals.

33 3. The electronic court notification system may be operated
34 by the Iowa judicial branch or be operated under a contract with
35 a qualified third-party entity that meets the requirements of

1 this section.

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EXPLANATION

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The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

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

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This bill relates to the establishment of an electronic court
6 notification system.

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The bill provides that the state court administrator shall, by
8 July 1, 2027, establish an opt-out electronic court notification
9 system for all pending and future criminal case actions. The
10 system shall: deliver text-based notifications to enrolled
11 individuals regarding all public case proceedings and events,
12 including appearance reminders containing the date, time, and
13 location, and notification of fees due and methods of payment;
14 provide enrolled individuals with a clear and simple option to
15 opt out of receiving notifications through the electronic court
16 notification system; protect against the disclosure of nonpublic
17 information, including information filed in cases under seal; and
18 limit participation in the electronic court notification system
19 to enrolled individuals.

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The bill provides that the electronic court notification
21 system may be operated by the Iowa judicial branch or be operated
22 under a contract with a qualified third-party entity that meets
23 the requirements of the bill.