

**Senate File 49 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 49  
BY REICHMAN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the use or creation of bots to purchase event  
2 tickets on the internet, and providing civil penalties.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **554I.1 Definitions.**

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

4 1. "Bot" means an automated software program that performs  
5 automatic and repetitive tasks and is designed to impersonate or  
6 replicate human activity on the internet. "Bot" does not include  
7 autofill or password management features built into an internet  
8 browser or provided through separate internet software.

9 2. "Event" means a concert, theatrical performance, sporting  
10 event, exhibition, show, or similar scheduled activity that is  
11 all of the following:

12 a. Open to the public.

13 b. Held in a public or private venue.

14 c. Requires payment of an admission fee to attend the event.

15 3. "Ticket" means a physical or electronic certificate,  
16 voucher, document, token, or other evidence of a right for  
17 admission to enter an event at one or more specified dates and  
18 times.

19 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **554I.2 Internet ticket sales.**

20 A person shall not use or create a bot to do any of the  
21 following:

22 1. Purchase tickets in excess of the posted limit for any one  
23 internet ticket sale.

24 2. Use multiple internet protocol addresses, purchaser  
25 accounts, or electronic mail addresses to purchase tickets in  
26 excess of the posted limit for any one internet ticket sale.

27 3. Circumvent or disable an electronic queue, waiting period,  
28 presale code, or other sales volume limitation system associated  
29 with an internet ticket sale.

30 4. Circumvent or disable a security measure, access control  
31 system, or other control or measure that is used to facilitate  
32 authorized entry to an event.

33 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. **554I.3 Reporting violations.**

34 1. A ticket seller shall report known violations of this  
35 chapter to the attorney general within five calendar days of

1 becoming aware of the violation.

2 2. An individual that has knowledge of a violation of this  
3 chapter may report the violation to the attorney general.

4 3. The attorney general shall establish an electronic  
5 reporting system for the submission of reports pursuant to this  
6 section.

7 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. **554I.4 Enforcement — penalties.**

8 1. If the attorney general has reasonable belief that a  
9 person is in violation of this chapter, the attorney general has  
10 the sole authority to bring civil action to provide for all of  
11 the following:

12 a. Enjoinment of further violations by the person.

13 b. Enforcement of compliance with this chapter.

14 c. Assessment of civil penalties in an amount not more than  
15 ten thousand dollars for each violation of this chapter.

16 d. Other remedies permitted under law.

17 2. If the attorney general has reasonable belief that a  
18 person is in violation of an injunction issued under this  
19 section, the attorney general has the sole authority to bring  
20 civil action to provide for civil penalties in an amount not more  
21 than one hundred thousand dollars.

22 EXPLANATION

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

25 This bill relates to the use or creation of bots to purchase  
26 event tickets during internet sales. "Bot", "event", and  
27 "ticket" are defined by the bill.

28 The bill prohibits a person from creating or using a bot  
29 to purchase tickets, or from using multiple internet protocol  
30 addresses, purchaser accounts, or electronic mail addresses to  
31 purchase tickets in excess of the posted limit for any one  
32 internet ticket sale. The bill also prohibits a person from  
33 creating or using a bot to circumvent or disable an electronic  
34 queue, waiting period, presale code, or other sales volume  
35 limitation system that is associated with an internet ticket

1 sale, or from circumventing or disabling an access control system  
2 or other control or measure that is used to facilitate authorized  
3 entry to an event.

4 The bill requires a ticket seller to report known violations  
5 of the bill's provisions within five calendar days of becoming  
6 aware of the violation. Other individuals that have knowledge  
7 of a violation of the bill's provisions may report the violation  
8 to the attorney general. The bill requires the attorney general  
9 to establish an electronic reporting system for the submission of  
10 reports.

11 If the attorney general has reasonable belief that a person  
12 is in violation of the bill, the attorney general may bring  
13 civil action to enjoin further violations by the person, enforce  
14 compliance with the bill, assess a civil penalty in an amount  
15 not more than \$10,000 for each violation, and other remedies  
16 permitted by law. If the attorney general has reasonable belief  
17 that a person is in violation of an injunction issued under the  
18 bill, the attorney general may bring civil action to provide for  
19 civil penalties in an amount not more than \$100,000.