

House Study Bill 715 - Introduced

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

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to camping, including camper and cabin
- 2 limits at youth camps and emergency safety requirements at
- 3 campgrounds.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 466D.1 Definitions.

2 For purposes of this chapter:

3 1. "*Cabin*" means a structure used to provide temporary
4 sleeping quarters for campers.

5 2. "*Camper*" means a minor who is attending a youth camp on
6 a day care or boarding basis.

7 3. "*Campground*" means a commercial property designed
8 to provide cabins for transient overnight guest use or a
9 recreational vehicle park.

10 4. "*Department*" means the department of natural resources.

11 5. "*Floodplain*" means the same as "*floodplains*" as defined
12 in section 455B.261.

13 6. "*Recreational vehicle park*" means a commercial property
14 that is designed primarily for recreational vehicle transient
15 guest use and for which fees for site service connections for
16 recreational vehicles are paid daily, weekly, or monthly.

17 7. "*Youth camp*" means a facility or property that meets all
18 of the following criteria:

19 a. Has the general characteristics of a day camp, resident
20 camp, or travel camp.

21 b. Is used primarily or partially for recreational,
22 athletic, religious, or educational activities.

23 c. Accommodates at least five minors who attend or
24 temporarily reside at the camp for all or part of at least four
25 days.

26 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 466D.2 Youth camps.

27 The department shall adopt rules establishing limits on all
28 of the following in relation to the flood risk at youth camps:

29 1. The number of campers allowed at a youth camp located in
30 a floodplain at any one time.

31 2. The number of cabins allowed on the premises of a youth
32 camp.

33 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 466D.3 Campgrounds — emergency
34 systems.

35 1. A campground operating in the state of Iowa shall have

1 an emergency alarm system installed and operating within the
2 campground that can function without an internet connection.

3 2. A campground operating in the state of Iowa shall post
4 emergency evacuation directions in all structures within the
5 campground.

6 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 466D.4 Delegation of authority.

7 The department shall have the power and authority reasonably
8 necessary to effectuate this chapter.

9 EXPLANATION

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

12 This bill relates to campgrounds, including camper and cabin
13 limits at youth camps and emergency safety requirements at
14 campgrounds.

15 The bill creates definitions for terms used in the bill. The
16 bill requires the department of natural resources (department)
17 to adopt rules establishing limits, based on flood risk, on
18 the number of campers allowed at a youth camp located in a
19 floodplain at any one time and the number of cabins permitted
20 on the premises of a youth camp.

21 The bill requires all campgrounds to have an emergency alarm
22 system installed and operating that can function without an
23 internet connection and to post emergency evacuation directions
24 in all structures within the campground.

25 The bill grants the department the power and authority
26 reasonably necessary to effectuate the bill.