IOWA HOUSE REPUBLICANS

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS STAFF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

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HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:

Senate File 146

Committee:

Economic Growth & Technology

Floor Manager: Rep. Sorensen

April 23, 2025

Date: Staff:

Kristi Kious (2-5290)

House Committee:

PASSED on 3/31/25 (20-0)

House Floor:

Senate Floor:

PASSED on 2/11/25 (47-0)

Governor:

Prohibition on Bots Purchasing Tickets

• Prohibits a person from creating or using bots to purchase tickets via an internet ticket sale.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1 - Definitions (5541.1)

(New section) This section defines *bot* as an automated software program that performs automatic and repetitive tasks and is designed to impersonate or replicate human activity on the internet.

Section 2 - Internet ticket sales (5541.2)

(New section) This section provides that a person shall not use or create a bot to purchase tickets in excess of the posted limit for any one internet ticket sale. It also prohibits a person from circumventing or disabling an electronic queue, waiting period, presale code, or other sales volume limitation system associated with an internet ticket sale.

Section 3 – Reporting violations (5541.3)

(New section) This section requires a ticket seller to report violations to the AG within five days of becoming aware.

<u>Section 4 – Enforcement – penalties (5541.4)</u>

(New section) This section provides that if the AG has reasonable belief that a person is violating this chapter, the attorney general has the sole authority to bring civil action to include a civil penalty of up to \$100,000.

Amendment Analysis

H-1270 by Sorensen

This amendment clarifies a ticket seller only has to report violations within five days upon request of the AG.

H-1274 by Lohse

This amendment provides that instead of the AG bringing a civil action, a violation would be unfair practice under 714H (consumer fraud chapter).