

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2698

## 100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HICKS.

5711H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

### AN ACT

To amend chapter 316, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to internet domain names of website operators, with penalty provisions.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 316, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 316.130, to read as follows:

**316.130. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:**

(1) "Internet domain name", a globally unique, hierarchical reference to an internet host or service, which is assigned through centralized internet naming authorities and which is comprised of a series of character strings separated by periods, with the right-most string specifying the top of the hierarchy;

(2) "Ticket website", a website advertising the sale of tickets, offering the sale of tickets, or offering tickets for resale;

(3) "URL", a website's uniform resource locator;

(4) "Venue", an arena, stadium, theater, concert hall, or other place of exhibition or performance;

(5) "Website operator", a person owning, operating, or controlling a ticket website for an event scheduled at a venue.

2. Except as provided in subsection 3 of this section, a website operator shall not intentionally use an internet domain name in a ticket website's URL that contains any of the following:

(1) The name of the venue;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in bold-face type in the above bill is proposed language.

17           **(2) The name of an exhibition or performance, including the name of an artist**  
18 **scheduled to perform at the venue or an event scheduled at the venue; or**

19           **(3) Any name substantially similar to those in subdivision (1) or (2) of this**  
20 **subsection.**

21           **3. This section shall not apply to a website operator who is authorized by the venue**  
22 **to act on its behalf.**

23           **4. The attorney general may file a civil action for injunctive relief against any**  
24 **website operator who has violated this section. The court may award court costs and**  
25 **reasonable attorney's fees to the prevailing party. The court may also impose a civil**  
26 **penalty not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars for each violation.**

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