

By: Moody

H.B. No. 3528

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the Internet domain name used by a website that sells tickets to events.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 10, Business & Commerce Code, is amended by adding Chapter 327 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 327. INTERNET WEBSITE DOMAIN NAMES FOR TICKET SELLERS

Sec. 327.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Internet domain name" means a globally unique, hierarchical reference to an Internet host or service that is:

(A) assigned through a centralized Internet naming authority; and

(B) composed of a series of character strings separated by periods with the right-most string specifying the top of the hierarchy.

(2) "Ticket website" means an Internet website advertising or offering the sale of tickets, or offering tickets for resale, to an event in this state.

(3) "Venue" means an arena, stadium, theater, concert hall, or other place used for events such as an exhibition or a concert performance.

(4) "Website operator" means a person who owns, operates, or controls a ticket website for an event scheduled at a venue in this state.

1       Sec. 327.002. TICKET WEBSITE DOMAIN NAME RESTRICTED. (a)

2 Except as provided by Subsection (b), a website operator may not  
3 intentionally use an Internet domain name, or any subdomain of the  
4 Internet domain name, in a ticket website's uniform resource  
5 locator that contains any of the following:

6           (1) the name of the venue holding an event to which the  
7 ticket website offers tickets for sale or resale;

8           (2) the name of an exhibition or performance or of  
9 another event described by Subdivision (1), including the name of  
10 an artist scheduled to perform at the venue; or

11           (3) any name substantially similar to those in  
12 Subdivision (1) or (2).

13       (b) Subsection (a) does not apply to a website operator who  
14 is authorized by the venue, a performing artist scheduled to  
15 perform at the venue, or the event's organizer to act on the  
16 venue's, artist's, or event's behalf.

17       Sec. 327.003. DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICE. A violation of  
18 this chapter is a deceptive trade practice under Subchapter E,  
19 Chapter 17, and is actionable under that subchapter.

20       SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.