SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 952

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ROWDEN.

Read 1st time January 23, 2018, and ordered printed.

5810S.01I

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

AN ACT

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

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 2 section, to be known as section 316.130, to read as follows:

316.130. 1. As used in this section, the following terms shall 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;
- 8 (2) "Ticket website", a website advertising the sale of tickets, 9 offering the sale of tickets, or offering tickets for resale;
- 10 (3) "URL", a website's uniform resource locator;
- 11 (4) "Venue", an arena, stadium, theater, concert hall, or other 12 place of exhibition or performance;
- 13 (5) "Website operator", a person owning, operating, or controlling 14 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, or any subdomain thereof, in a ticket website's URL that contains any of the following:
- 19 (1) The name of the venue;
- 20 (2) The name of an exhibition or performance, including the 21 name of a person or entity scheduled to perform or appear at a venue;

SB 952 2

22 **or**

- 23 (3) Any name substantially similar to those in subdivision (1) or 24 (2) of this subsection.
- 3. This section shall not apply to a website operator who is authorized by the venue to be acting upon its behalf.
- 4. The attorney general may file a civil action for injunctive relief against any website operator who has violated this section. The court may award court costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the prevailing party. The court may also impose a civil penalty not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars for each violation.

Bill