

As Introduced

136th General Assembly

Regular Session

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H. B. No. 488

Representative Brennan

Cosponsors: Representatives White, E., Brownlee

To enact sections 993.15 and 993.16 of the Revised
Code to require an amusement park operator to
implement and maintain a system that publicly
communicates the real-time operational status of
each of its amusement rides.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 993.15 and 993.16 of the Revised
Code be enacted to read as follows:

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Sec. 993.15. (A) As used in this section and section
993.16 of the Revised Code:

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(1) "Amusement park" means a fixed-site amusement facility
open to the public for a defined or seasonal period each year
that contains amusement rides that are inspected by the
department of agriculture under this chapter.

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(2) "Ride status" means the operational condition of an
amusement ride at any given time.

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(3) "Real-time" means within five minutes of a change in
an amusement ride's operational status.

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(B) (1) An owner or operator of an amusement park shall

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implement and maintain a system that publicly communicates the 19
real-time ride status of each amusement ride on the park's 20
premises during the park's operating hours. Such ride status 21
shall specify one of the following: 22

(a) That the amusement ride is operational to indicate 23
that the ride is open and functioning; 24

(b) That the amusement ride is temporarily closed to 25
indicate that the ride is not operating due to mechanical 26
issues, weather, staffing issues, or other temporary causes; 27

(c) That the amusement ride is under maintenance to 28
indicate that the ride is closed for mechanical work or 29
inspection; 30

(d) Any other ride status that specifies that the 31
amusement ride is closed and clearly indicates the reason for 32
such closure. 33

(2) The owner or operator, when implementing and 34
maintaining a real-time ride status communication system, shall 35
ensure that the public may access the ride status of each 36
amusement ride on the amusement park's premise, at a minimum, by 37
doing both of the following: 38

(a) Installing and maintaining digital signage that 39
depicts the ride status of each such amusement ride at or near 40
the entrance to the amusement park and at the entrance of each 41
amusement ride; 42

(b) Displaying the ride status of each such amusement ride 43
on the amusement park's web site, any social media platforms, 44
and any mobile application maintained by the owners or operators 45
of the amusement park. 46

Such signage and electronic displays shall be updated in 47
real-time to reflect an amusement ride's ride status. 48

(C) No owner or operator of an amusement park shall 49
violate division (B) of this section or rules adopted under 50
section 993.16 of the Revised Code. 51

(D) Whoever violates division (C) of this section is 52
subject to the following administrative penalties: 53

(1) A warning for a first violation; 54

(2) A civil fine of ten thousand dollars per day for each 55
subsequent violation; 56

(3) Any additional corrective actions specified in rules 57
adopted under section 993.16 of the Revised Code. 58

Sec. 993.16. Not later than one hundred eighty days after 59
the effective date of this section, the director of agriculture 60
shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised 61
Code to implement and enforce section 993.15 of the Revised 62
Code, including provisions for inspections and compliance 63
monitoring. 64

Section 2. Section 993.15 of the Revised Code takes effect 65
one year after the effective date of this section. 66