





Consumer Action/National Consumers League/Consumer Federation of America Letter

RE: Opposition to HB-3510

Dear Representative Garrett and Members of the Rules Committee,

On behalf of Consumer Action, the National Consumers League and Consumer Federation of America, we urge you to oppose HB-3510, legislation that will block consumer's access to a fair market for live event tickets. House Bill 3510 attempts to restrict the secondary market and give companies like Ticketmaster a monopoly that prevents consumers from accessing a competitive and consumer-friendly secondary ticket market.

Consumer Action has been a champion of underrepresented consumers nationwide since 1971. A nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, Consumer Action focuses on financial education that empowers low to moderate income and limited English speaking consumers to financially prosper.

Founded in 1899, the National Consumers League (NCL) is America's pioneer consumer organization. Its mission is to protect and promote social and economic justice for consumers and workers in the United States and abroad.

The Consumer Federation of America (CFA) is an association of non-profit consumer organizations that was established in 1968 to advance the consumer interest through research, advocacy, and education. Today, nearly 300 of these groups participate in the federation and govern it through their representatives on the organization's Board of Directors.

An open and competitive online secondary ticket market protects consumers from fraud in the street-level ticket resale market. Specifically section 1(b) of HB-3510 states "An admission ticket is counterfeit if a reseller that sells the admission ticket is not an authorized reseller," allowing ticket sellers to dictate how – or whether – consumers can share or transfer their tickets, including whether they are permitted to donate tickets to charitable organizations or re-sell their tickets at a price of their choosing. By requiring that all ticket transfers and resales be made through their own websites, sellers like Ticketmaster can monopolize the resale market, eliminating consumer choice.

Consumer Action, NCL and CFA oppose HB-3510 and we strongly urge you to protect consumer rights by opposing this bill as well.

Sincerely,

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