

Submitter: Mesut Ergin
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Commerce and Consumer Protection
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3167

Dear Members of the Oregon House,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 3167, the Fan Fairness & Transparency Act. This crucial piece of legislation addresses the growing concerns of Oregonians who have been subjected to unfair practices in the ticketing industry. As a fan of concerts, sporting events, and other entertainment activities, I have personally experienced the frustration of hidden fees, deceptive marketing, and the lack of transparency in ticket sales.

The Fan Fairness & Transparency Act is a comprehensive solution that will provide much-needed protections for consumers. By introducing requirements for secondary ticketing platforms, the Act ensures that the resale market is secure and transparent. Disclosures of seat locations, ticket guarantees, and buyer protections, such as refund policies in case of event cancellations, will give consumers the confidence they need when purchasing tickets.

One of the most significant provisions of HB 3167 is the all-in pricing requirement. This mandate will require sellers to display the total price upfront, including any fees, service charges, and taxes, throughout the purchasing process. This transparency will prevent the appearance of hidden fees at the final step of checkout, allowing consumers to make informed decisions without any surprises.

Additionally, the Act establishes transparency requirements for secondary ticket sales, ensuring that buyers are aware they are purchasing from a reseller and not the event organizer. This provision, along with the prohibition of deceptive marketing practices, will protect consumers from being misled about the origin of their tickets.

The ban on speculative ticketing is another critical aspect of HB 3167. By making it unlawful for resellers to sell tickets they do not physically or electronically possess, the Act ensures that consumers are not purchasing tickets that may not exist. This measure will help prevent fraudulent sales and protect consumers from being scammed.

Furthermore, the expansion of the current anti-bots ban in statute will help combat the use of software that unfairly procures tickets. By requiring venue operators or ticket sellers to notify the Attorney General if they detect the use of banned software, the Act strengthens enforcement and ensures that violators are held accountable.

The penalties for violating the Act, including the provision for a private right of action to sue for violations, will serve as a strong deterrent against unfair practices in the ticketing industry. This will further Oregon's commitment to consumer protections and ensure that fans can enjoy their favorite events without being taken advantage of.

In conclusion, HB 3167 takes meaningful steps towards increasing transparency and fairness in the ticketing industry. I urge you to vote YES on HB 3167 and support the Fan Fairness & Transparency Act. This legislation will provide Oregonians with the protections they deserve and help restore trust in the ticketing process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mesut A Ergin