



Testimony in Support of HB-3167-3

Oregon State Legislature
March 11, 2025

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Meara McLaughlin, and I serve as the Executive Director of MusicOregon, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the economic vitality of Oregon's independent music industry. I am here today to express my **strong support for HB-3167-3**, which represents a crucial step toward protecting our state's music venues, fans, and artists from extractive and duplicative systems designed to exploit.

Resale platforms like **StubHub, Vivid Seats, and SeatGeek** are fighting to strip artists of control over their tickets, shrink fan access to live shows, and rake in massive profits through inflated prices and hidden fees that they take out of state. Their tactics drive fans away from live music and hurt artists, venues, and communities.

The for profit music sector contributes \$3.8 billion in direct impact to Oregon's economy. In 2021 the live performance industry contributed over 15,700 jobs directly in the state, for a total of 21,143 jobs (direct, indirect, and induced). (source: Business Oregon emerging economic impact reports)

Without a sales tax, tourism plays an outsized role in Oregon's economy. MusicPortland's analysis of nearly two million ticket sales at Portland's largest independent venues found that **23% of attendees traveled from over 50 miles away, generating an estimated \$100 million in tourism spending last year.** When resellers purchase tickets and fail to sell them, seats remain empty, reducing event attendance and depriving our local economy of that critical indirect spending.

I recently searched for information on my own daughter's local performance with her signed act. The **first three search results offered it at FIVE TIMES the venue price.**

I am frequently approached by journalists seeking to understand the enormous increase in the cost of seeing live music. These reseller platforms make live music SEEM more unaffordable and therefore **chill an already cooled, post pandemic public.**

Please vote to stand with artists, fans, and venues—not corporate resellers. I urge the committee to support this legislation with the -3 amendments and help Oregon's music industry remain viable. Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions.

Meara McLaughlin

Executive Director, MusicOregon and MusicPortland