

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

Dear Committee,

As the director of operations for MusicPortland as well as an active working musician, I support HB-3167-3.

With bots purchasing tickets, attendance suffers at shows, which hurts both venues and musicians. Venues make a good chunk of their money from the bar, which they can't do without actual people being physically present at the show. Venues are already struggling, so bots are a big threat to their survival.

As someone who plays music in an up and coming local act, I rely on capturing footage of full houses to show bookers my band's ability to draw an audience, but what happens if the "bots" don't show up? Attendance suffers even more when these unofficial ticket sites hike the prices and thwart people from attending in the first place. I am deeply concerned about the survival of venues and artists like myself who are trying to build careers if fans are misled by imposter ticketing sites, inflated ticket prices and fees. Without regulation, this means venues will close, fans will be priced out and Oregon's beloved live music scene suffers.

In Oregon's inaugural economic impact study, Commercial music was named an "Emerging Industry," even though it already brings in \$3.8 billion of direct economic impact in this state. It seems like there are people waiting to exploit the music industry around every corner these days, but it's time to recognize how vital music to Oregon's people and economy.

Pass this bill to protect vulnerable venues, artists and fans and to preserve the meaningful economic impact we have on our state.

Thank you,
Renée Muzquiz