

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4614

To provide a private right of action for persons harmed by violations of the Franchise Rule of the Federal Trade Commission, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 22, 2025

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. HUFFMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide a private right of action for persons harmed by violations of the Franchise Rule of the Federal Trade Commission, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Franchisee Freedom
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
8 sion of law, any person found to have committed any viola-
9 tion of part 436 of title 16, Code of Federal Regulations,

1 or section 3 of this Act, shall be liable to any person
2 harmed by such violation for—

3 (1) actual damages;

4 (2) additional equitable relief, including rescis-
5 sion of any contract and such other equitable relief
6 as a court may find appropriate; and

7 (3) reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

8 (b) JURISDICTION AND VENUE.—Jurisdiction and
9 venue of a civil action under this section shall be concur-
10 rent and may be commenced in—

11 (1) the United States District Court in the dis-
12 trict in which the claimant resides; or

13 (2) in a State court of competent jurisdiction in
14 the State in which the claimant resides.

15 **SEC. 3. RIGHT OF ASSOCIATION.**

16 A franchisor may not, directly or indirectly, restrict
17 a franchisee from associating with other franchisees or
18 from participating in a trade association, including by re-
19 taliating against a franchisee for associating with other
20 franchisees or participating in a trade association.

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