

**Calendar No. 63**119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION**S. 281****[Report No. 119–17]**

To require sellers of event tickets to disclose comprehensive information to consumers about ticket prices and related fees, to prohibit speculative ticketing, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES**

JANUARY 28, 2025

Mr. SCHMITT (for himself and Mr. MARKEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

APRIL 29, 2025

Reported by Mr. CRUZ, with amendments

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**A BILL**

To require sellers of event tickets to disclose comprehensive information to consumers about ticket prices and related fees, to prohibit speculative ticketing, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Transparency In  
3 Charges for Key Events Ticketing Act” or the “TICKET  
4 Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. ALL INCLUSIVE TICKET PRICE DISCLOSURE.**

6 Beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment  
7 of this Act, it shall be unlawful for a ticket issuer, sec-  
8 ondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket  
9 exchange to offer for sale an event ticket unless the ticket  
10 issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary mar-  
11 ket ticket exchange—

12 (1) clearly and conspicuously displays the total  
13 event ticket price, if a price is displayed, in any ad-  
14 vertisement, marketing, or price list wherever the  
15 ticket is offered for sale;

16 (2) clearly and conspicuously discloses to any  
17 individual who seeks to purchase an event ticket the  
18 total event ticket price at the time the ticket is first  
19 displayed to the individual and anytime thereafter  
20 throughout the ticket purchasing process; and

21 (3) provides an itemized list of the base event  
22 ticket price and each event ticket fee prior to the  
23 completion of the ticket purchasing process.

24 **SEC. 3. SPECULATIVE TICKETING BAN.**

25 (a) PROHIBITION.—Beginning 180 days after the  
26 date of the enactment of this Act, a ticket issuer, sec-

1 onduary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket  
2 exchange that does not have actual or constructive posses-  
3 sion of an event ticket shall not sell, offer for sale, or ad-  
4 vertise for sale such event ticket.

5 (b) SERVICES PERMITTED.—Notwithstanding sub-  
6 section (a), a secondary market ticket issuer or secondary  
7 market ticket exchange may sell, offer for sale, or adver-  
8 tise for sale a service to an individual to obtain an event  
9 ticket on behalf of such individual if the secondary market  
10 ticket issuer or secondary market ticket exchange complies  
11 with the following:

12 (1) Does not market or list the service as an  
13 event ticket.

14 (2) Maintains a clear, distinct, and easily dis-  
15 cernible separation between the service and event  
16 tickets that persists throughout the entire service se-  
17 lection and purchasing process.

18 (3) Clearly and conspicuously discloses before  
19 selection of the service that the service is not an  
20 event ticket and that the purchase of the service  
21 does not guarantee an event ticket.

22 **SEC. 4. DISCLOSURES.**

23 A ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or  
24 secondary market ticket exchange—

1 (1) if offering an event ticket for resale, shall  
 2 provide a clear and conspicuous statement, before a  
 3 consumer purchases the event ticket from the ticket  
 4 issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary  
 5 market ticket exchange, that the issuer or exchange  
 6 is engaged in the secondary sale of event tickets; ~~and~~

7 (2) shall not state that the ticket issuer, sec-  
 8 ondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market  
 9 ticket exchange is affiliated with or endorsed by a  
 10 venue, team, or artist, as applicable, including by  
 11 using words like “official” in promotional materials,  
 12 social media promotions, or paid advertising, unless  
 13 a partnership agreement has been executed or the  
 14 issuer or exchange has the express written consent  
 15 of the venue, team, or artist, as applicable; *and*

16 (3) *shall not include the name of the venue, in-*  
 17 *cluding any misspellings of any such name, in a do-*  
 18 *main name, or any subdomain thereof, in the URL*  
 19 *of the secondary market ticket issuer or secondary*  
 20 *market ticket exchange unless authorized by the owner*  
 21 *of the venue.*

22 **SEC. 5. REFUND REQUIREMENTS.**

23 (a) CANCELLATION.—Beginning 180 days after the  
 24 date of the enactment of this Act, if an event is canceled  
 25 or postponed (except for a case in which an event is can-

1 celed or postponed due to a cause beyond the reasonable  
2 control of the issuer, including a natural disaster, civil dis-  
3 turbance, or otherwise unforeseeable impediment), a ticket  
4 issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary mar-  
5 ket ticket exchange shall provide the purchaser of an event  
6 ticket from the issuer or exchange for the canceled or post-  
7 poned event, at a minimum—

8           (1) if the event is cancelled, a full refund for  
9           the total event ticket price;

10           (2) subject to availability, if the event is post-  
11           poned for not more than 6 months and the original  
12           event ticket is no longer valid for entry to the re-  
13           scheduled event, a replacement event ticket for the  
14           rescheduled event in the same or a comparable loca-  
15           tion once the event has been rescheduled; or

16           (3) if the event is postponed for more than 6  
17           months, at the option of the purchaser—

18                   (A) a full refund for the total event ticket  
19                   price; or

20                   (B) if the original event ticket is no longer  
21                   valid for entry to the rescheduled event, a re-  
22                   placement event ticket for the rescheduled event  
23                   in the same or a comparable location once the  
24                   event has been rescheduled.

1 (b) DISCLOSURE OF GUARANTEE AND REFUND POL-  
2 ICY REQUIRED.—Beginning 180 days after the date of the  
3 enactment of this Act, a ticket issuer, secondary market  
4 ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange shall  
5 disclose clearly and conspicuously to a purchaser before  
6 the completion of an event ticket sale the guarantee or  
7 refund policy of such ticket issuer, secondary market tick-  
8 et issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange, including  
9 under what circumstances any refund issued will include  
10 a refund of any event ticket fee.

11 (c) DISCLOSURE OF HOW TO OBTAIN A REFUND RE-  
12 QUIRED.—Beginning 180 days after the date of the enact-  
13 ment of this Act, a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket  
14 issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange shall provide  
15 a clear and conspicuous explanation of how to obtain a  
16 refund of the total event ticket price.

17 **SEC. 6. REPORT BY THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION ON**  
18 **BOTS ACT OF 2016 ENFORCEMENT.**

19 Not later than 6 months after the date of the enact-  
20 ment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to Congress  
21 a report on enforcement of the Better Online Ticket Sales  
22 Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–274; 15 U.S.C. 45c), includ-  
23 ing any enforcement action taken, challenges with enforce-  
24 ment and coordination with State Attorneys General, and

1 recommendations on how to improve enforcement and in-  
2 dustry compliance.

3 **SEC. 7. ENFORCEMENT.**

4 (a) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACT OR PRACTICE.—A  
5 violation of this Act shall be treated as a violation of a  
6 rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice under  
7 section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act  
8 (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

9 (b) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall en-  
11 force this Act in the same manner, by the same  
12 means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and  
13 duties as though all applicable terms and provisions  
14 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41  
15 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of  
16 this Act.

17 (2) PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.—Any person  
18 who violates this Act shall be subject to the penalties  
19 and entitled to the privileges and immunities pro-  
20 vided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15  
21 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

22 (3) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in this  
23 Act shall be construed to limit the authority of the  
24 Commission under any other provision of law.

1 **SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) **ARTIST.**—The term “artist” means any per-  
4 former, musician, comedian, producer, ensemble or  
5 production entity of a theatrical production, sports  
6 team owner, or similar person.

7 (2) **BASE EVENT TICKET PRICE.**—The term  
8 “base event ticket price” means, with respect to an  
9 event ticket, the price of the event ticket excluding  
10 the cost of any event ticket fees.

11 (3) **COMMISSION.**—The term “Commission”  
12 means the Federal Trade Commission.

13 (4) **EVENT.**—The term “event” means any live  
14 concert, theatrical performance, sporting event,  
15 show, or similarly scheduled live activity, that is—

16 (A) taking place in a venue with a seating  
17 or attendance capacity exceeding 200 persons;

18 (B) open to the general public; and

19 (C) promoted, advertised, or marketed in  
20 interstate commerce, or for which event tickets  
21 are generally sold or distributed in interstate  
22 commerce.

23 (5) **EVENT TICKET; TICKET ISSUER.**—The  
24 terms “event ticket” and “ticket issuer” have the  
25 meaning given those terms in the Better Online  
26 Ticket Sales Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–274).

1           (6) EVENT TICKET FEE.—The term “event  
2 ticket fee”—

3           (A) means a charge for an event ticket  
4 that must be paid in addition to the base event  
5 ticket price in order to obtain an event ticket  
6 from a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket  
7 issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange, in-  
8 cluding any service fee, charge and order proc-  
9 essing fee, delivery fee, facility charge fee, tax,  
10 and any other charge; and

11           (B) does not include any charge or fee for  
12 an optional product or service associated with  
13 the event that may be selected by a purchaser  
14 of an event ticket.

15           (7) OPTIONAL PRODUCT OR SERVICE.—The  
16 term “optional product or service” means a product  
17 or service that an individual does not need to pur-  
18 chase to use or take possession of an event ticket.

19           (8) RESALE; SECONDARY SALE.—The terms  
20 “resale” and “secondary sale” mean any sale of an  
21 event ticket that occurs after the initial sale of the  
22 event ticket by a ticket issuer.

23           (9) SECONDARY MARKET TICKET EXCHANGE.—  
24 The term “secondary market ticket exchange”  
25 means any person that in the regular course of trade

1 or business of that person operates a platform or ex-  
2 change for advertising, listing, or selling resale tick-  
3 ets, on behalf of itself, vendors, or a secondary mar-  
4 ket ticket issuer.

5 (10) SECONDARY MARKET TICKET ISSUER.—  
6 The term “secondary market ticket issuer” means  
7 any person, including a ticket issuer, that resells or  
8 makes a secondary sale of an event ticket to the gen-  
9 eral public in the regular course of the trade or busi-  
10 ness of the person.

11 (11) TOTAL EVENT TICKET PRICE.—The term  
12 “total event ticket price” means, with respect to an  
13 event ticket, the total cost of the event ticket, includ-  
14 ing the base event ticket price and any event ticket  
15 fee.

16 (12) URL.—*The term “URL” means the uni-*  
17 *form resource locator associated with an internet*  
18 *website.*

19 (13) VENUE.—The term “venue” means a  
20 physical space at which an event takes place.



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119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> Session

**S. 281**

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