



February 1, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
568 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20515

RE: Please add H.R. 3950 the “TICKET Act” which was unanimously approved out of the Energy and Commerce Committee on a bipartisan basis to the suspension calendar

Dear Speaker Johnson, Majority Leader Scalise, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

The Ticket Buyer Bill of Rights Coalition writes today to request a full vote in the House of Representatives on the TICKET Act (H.R. 3950), essential consumer protection legislation which will improve the ticket buying experience for fans and add much-needed transparency in the multi-billion dollar live event ticketing market that today remains opaque and full of hidden fees and deception. As you may know, the House Energy and Commerce Committee passed this noncontroversial legislation 45-0 on December 6th, 2023.

This bill not only passed unanimously from the committee but received resounding support from almost every major stakeholder in the live event policy ecosystem including the International Association of Venue Managers, Fix the Tix Coalition, NetChoice, Artist Rights Alliance, and the Coalition for Ticket Fairness.

As a comprehensive measure, the legislation aims to address crucial issues within the flawed ticketing system, which has been the topic of countless news articles, as well as hearings in both chambers of Congress. We urge that the house lead by example on ticketing legislation and bring forward for a vote this bipartisan legislation that will help consumers and improve competition in the live event ticketing market.

The passage of this legislation in December marked the most significant progress in Washington toward improving the live events market since the passage of the BOTS Act in 2016. We thank members of the Energy and Commerce Committee for this achievement. There is not just bipartisan support but broad support among consumer advocacy organizations and industry participants that the TICKET Act will improve the live events experience for consumers. The bill would require live event ticketing companies to disclose the full price inclusive of fees of a ticket up front, rather than at the end of the check out process. It would also eliminate prospective (aka “speculative”) ticketing, where a consumer buys a promise to procure a ticket rather than the ticket itself, without disclosure and transparency. The addition of the STOP Act to the bill means that other important consumer protections are now included, specifically refund requirements for canceled events and banning deceptive website marketing.



Fans deserve far more transparency than they are granted when it comes to buying tickets, and this bill advancing to ultimately become a law would be a bipartisan victory for Congress and consumers. Ticket Buyer Bill of Rights supports the TICKET Act as a bill that would enact many of the five pillars that we believe should serve as a framework for every ticketing related legislation:

1. The Right to Transferability, where ticket holders decide how to use, sell or give away their tickets if they wish and not the entity that previously sold the tickets;
2. The Right to Transparency, which includes all-in pricing and disclosures of relevant information for the purchasing decision;
3. The Right to Set the Price, so that companies who originally sold the tickets cannot dictate to fans for what price they can or cannot resell their purchased tickets;
4. The Right to a Fair Marketplace, where fans compete with actual humans, not illegal software bots, for tickets;
5. The Right to Recourse, where harmed fans retain the choice to seek remedies through the public court system and are not blocked by terms and conditions that force them into private arbitration.

The House has a rare opportunity to seize this moment and improve the market.

We appreciate the opportunity to continue our work with legislators on this important issue, and thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Thank you for your consideration,

Brian Berry
Advocacy Director
Protect Ticket Rights

John Breyault
Vice President, Public Policy, Telecommunications and Fraud
National Consumers League

Sara Collins
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TICKET BUYER BILL OF RIGHTS

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Consumer Action

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Erin Witte
Director of Consumer Protection
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cc: Chairwoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Ranking Member Pallone, Chairman Bilirakis, and Ranking Member Schakowsky