



ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAM TONG  
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

**Testimony in Support of H.B. No. 5125,  
An Act Concerning Entertainment Event Tickets  
*General Law Committee*  
*Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026***

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of H.B. No. 5125, which is the same bill that passed out of the House in 2025, H.B. No. 7182. This bill aims to increase transparency in entertainment ticket pricing, set parameters around speculative ticket sales, and increase accountability for deceptive internet websites posing as an event venue.

This bill builds on the legislature's efforts in 2023 to require all-in ticket pricing disclosures for live events by better protecting consumers from deceptive practices used by ticket resellers. Consumers deserve to know what they are buying and not be shocked to learn that the ticket they purchased was actually a resale that cost far more than the original face value. Section 1 requires resellers to inform consumers up front that they either have the ticket in their possession, have a contract to obtain the ticket at a certain price or that they do not have the ticket in their possession or a contract to obtain it.

Section 2 prohibits the use of deceptive website URLs by third parties, which commonly deceive consumers into thinking they are buying from the primary ticket seller. This provision prohibits the use of URLs that contain the name of a venue, entertainment event or the use of a name substantially similar to either. We have heard from small local venues that it is not unusual for consumers to show up for a show having purchased a ticket from a fake website at great expense, only to learn they do not have a seat to the show at all.

Section 3 closes a loophole in the 2023 "all in ticket pricing law" and requires that sellers advertise the full price, including fees, from the moment the ticket is offered, not once the consumer selects the seat. We understand that certain sellers are complying with the intent of our all-in pricing law only to be undercut by sellers who advertise much lower ticket prices, because they do not include the fees. Section 3 defines the types of events covered by this disclosure requirement, and although there is "including, but not limited to" language we would respectfully request the addition of "admission to a place of amusement" to the definition of entertainment event. You may recall that Lake Compounce was found to be charging hidden fees for the admission to their park and we wouldn't want to unintentionally exclude them from this bill.

Finally, Section 3 requires that ticket resellers must disclose that the ticket is a resale ticket and may be offered at a different price than originally sold. We respectfully request that this language be amended to require a reseller to disclose the original ticket price and not just that it is a resold ticket. Connecticut consumers deserve full transparency and should be afforded the ability to know the profit margins a reseller is looking to earn so that they can make an informed decision on whether they want to purchase that ticket or look elsewhere. Proposed substitute language is included below.



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**For the reasons above, the Office of the Attorney General strongly recommends that the Committee favorably report H.B. No. 5125 with amendments.**

For additional information, please contact Nate Kalechman, Director of Legislative Affairs for the Office of the Attorney General at [Nathan.Kalechman@ct.gov](mailto:Nathan.Kalechman@ct.gov).

Proposed substitute language revising Section 3

Sec. 3. Section 53-289a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

(a) As used in this section: [, "service charge"]

(1) "Entertainment event" includes, but is not limited to, an athletic competition, admission to a place of amusement, sporting event, concert, operatic performance or theatrical performance, but does not include a movie;

(2) Any person that advertises or facilitates the resale of a ticket to an entertainment event via an Internet web site or online technology platform, the primary purpose of which is to facilitate resales of such tickets, shall disclose, in a clear and conspicuous manner, [that the ticket is a resale ticket that may be offered at a price that differs from the price of a ticket to an entertainment event that is offered or sold by the presenter of the entertainment event.] (A) that the ticket is a resale ticket that may be offered at a price that is greater than the price of a ticket to an entertainment event that is offered or sold by the presenter of the entertainment event, and (B) the price for which the ticket had initially been offered when it was first sold.