

Governor Ned Lamont State of Connecticut



FACT SHEET 2024 Legislative Session

SENATE BILL 15 AN ACT REQUIRING FEE DISCLOSURES

The Problem

According to the American Economic Liberties Project, junk fees cost the average American family more than \$3,000 per year and can raise final purchase prices by more than 20%. Families most commonly see junk fees on event tickets, hotels, lodging, travel, and food delivery services.

Junk fees deceptively increase costs for consumers at checkout, limiting their ability to find the best price without tedious searching. Consumers are being "nickel and dimed" by corporations who are turning profits via service fees, add-on charges, and other junk fees that aren't disclosed up front.

Low-income families are disproportionately affected by junk fees, as they may lack time, resources, and/or financial literacy to filter through these fees to search for a competitive price.

Junk fees distort true pricing, limit market competition, and put businesses charging one true price at a disadvantage while competitors hide the total price from consumers by tacking on charges on the back end.

Governor Lamont's Solution

This bill will require "all-in pricing" for all tickets, food delivery, and lodging which forces the disclosure of the full cost – including junk fees – on the front end of a priced quote. This upfront pricing will ensure that consumers are able to make better, well-informed purchases, and will consequently increase competition and drive prices down. A violation will be enforced by DCP and the Attorney General pursuant to the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act.

Contacts:

Governor's Office: Matthew Brokman, 860-951-9619 or matthew.brokman@ct.gov
Office of Policy and Management: Susan Sherman, 860-416-2008 or susan.b.sherman@ct.gov
State Capitol, Room 406