



February 3, 2026

Representative Nathan Sosa, Chair
House Committee On Commerce and Consumer Protection
900 Court Se. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: City of Eugene Supports HB 4024

The City of Eugene supports a statewide ban on speculative ticketing practices including in HB 4024 to protect consumers, ensure fair access to cultural events, and uphold accountable public service at the Hult Center for Performing Arts, which the City of Eugene owns and operates.

Speculative ticketing is widely regarded as a deeply deceptive practice. By allowing third-party sellers to advertise and sell tickets they do not actually possess, this practice creates a misleading and predatory marketplace that harms residents and visitors. It artificially inflates prices, exploits patrons, and induces consumers to purchase tickets under false or incomplete assumptions. For a municipally owned venue like the Hult Center for the Performing Arts, speculative ticketing also creates direct financial exposure. In FY25 alone, the City of Eugene absorbed approximately **\$200,523** in chargebacks tied to suspicious or unauthorized ticket transactions. While speculative sales are difficult to quantify precisely, this datapoint reflects the scale of the burden public venues are forced to carry.

Speculative ticketing directly undermines the Eugene City Council goal of Equitable, Effective, Accountable Municipal Government, which commits the City to “inclusive and equitable systems and services, transparent communication, and public institutions that earn community confidence through fairness and accountability.” When third-party actors mislead consumers and distort access to public cultural resources, the City’s ability to meet this goal is compromised.

For these reasons, the City of Eugene supports statewide action to prohibit speculative ticketing included in HB 4024. A statutory remedy will establish consistent consumer protections across Oregon, reduce patron harm, and reinforce equitable access to arts and cultural experiences while supporting the City’s commitment to fair, transparent, and accountable public service.

Respectfully,

//submitted electronically//

Ethan Nelson, Intergovernmental Relations Manager