

Submitter: Constance Bracewell
On Behalf Of: The Old Church Concert Hall Portland OR
Committee: House Committee On Commerce and Consumer Protection
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4024

I am the executive director of The Old Church Concert Hall, a nonprofit, all-ages venue in Portland that serves more than 16,000 attendees annually. Speculative ticketing creates real harm for both consumers and venues by allowing tickets to be listed and sold without the seller having actual or constructive possession of them.

This practice distorts the ticket marketplace by creating artificial scarcity and driving up prices beyond what venues or artists set. It also exposes consumers to significant risk, including invalid tickets and lack of recourse when a reseller cannot fulfill a sale. Local venues are left to manage the consequences of transactions we did not authorize and cannot verify, which erodes trust not only with audiences but also with our donor community, whose support depends on transparency and good faith practices.

HB 4024 addresses this gap by establishing a clear, enforceable standard: tickets should not be resold unless the seller actually has them. This is a reasonable consumer protection that aligns ticket resale with basic principles of truth in advertising and fair commerce.

Passage of HB 4024 would strengthen transparency, protect Oregon consumers, and support the sustainability of local venues that are essential to our cultural and economic landscape. I urge the committee to support HB 4024.

Thank you for your consideration,
Constance Bracewell,
Executive Director
The Old Church Concert Hall
1422 SW 11th AVE, Portland, OR 97201