

Submitter: Patrick Hosfield
On Behalf Of: WOW Hall -Community Center for the Performing Arts
Committee: House Committee On Commerce and Consumer Protection
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4024

Dear Chair Sosa, Vice Chairs Chaichi and Osborne, and Members of the Committee:

I am the executive director of the Community Center for the Performing Arts in Eugene, better known as the WOW Hall. In addition to being a community center, we are one of the most popular live music and dance venues in the region, drawing 30,000 paid ticket buyers a year on top of the 30,000 community members who participate in other events here.

I am writing in strong support of HB 4024.

When I became the director here I very quickly learned what a huge problem speculative ticketing has been for our fans and patrons. We deal with ticket buyers at many events who purchased tickets through speculative re-sellers, often for many times more than our advertised prices. This leaves our staff and volunteers (who make up a huge part of our operation) to manage disputes, sometimes with highly frustrated patrons who spent hundreds of dollars for tickets that had a face value of \$25 in the first place, and that turn out to be invalid.

We are a nonprofit organization that depends on the good will of our community. Each person who leaves the Hall furious about being scammed by a ticket re-seller is a small but real threat to our reputation even though we had absolutely nothing to do with the situation. This badly undermines our relationship with our patrons and our community.

Please remedy this situation and pass HB 4024.

Sincerely,
Patrick Hosfield
Executive Director
Community Center for the Performing Arts/WOW Hall