

Testimony in Support of HB 4024

Feb. 4, 2026

I write in support of HB 4024 to end speculative ticketing, on behalf of the Independent Venues Coalition, which represents over 100 local independent venues across Oregon. Our members include local institutions like Revolution Hall in Portland, Ragland Theater in Klamath Falls, the Elsinore Theater in Salem and Whiteside Theater in Corvallis, each of whom plays a vital role in Oregon's cultural and economic fabric.

Independent venues operate on thin margins. We rely on trust—between us, our artists, and our patrons. But that trust is being repeatedly undermined by deceptive and predatory practices like speculative ticketing.

Speculative ticketing is not an occasional annoyance—it is a *weekly*, sometimes *daily* fraud that creates chaos for our patrons and reputational harm for our venues. EVERY NIGHT, our venues have to turn away people who have driven from out of state (Boise, Seattle, Spokane, Montana) after purchasing fake tickets on the secondary market.

We've had customers arrive with invalid or duplicate tickets sold by resellers for seats that don't exist at our venues. Assigned seats for standing room shows with general admission. All-ages tickets for 21-and-over shows.

We've seen tickets on the secondary marketplace marked up 400% before we've even released a single ticket for sale. These tickets are fake - they don't exist.

And we've spent countless hours fielding angry calls from fans who feel they were deceived—despite never buying from us.

HB 4024 is a much-needed, commonsense and tailored solution that protects consumers without burdening artists or venue operators and aligns Oregon with other states that have banned speculative tickets.

Our member organizations deal with these issues at nearly every event, and unfortunately, all we can do is turn away disappointed fans, often out hundreds or thousands of dollars, while our venues absorb the reputational damage for something entirely outside of our control.

For local independent venues, HB 4024 offers a path to restore transparency and protect our beloved patrons.

I urge your support on HB 4024 and am happy to answer any questions.

Jim Brunberg

Independent Venue Coalition

503.421.9165

