

March 13, 2025

Senator Chip Curry, Chair Representative Traci Gere, Chair Committee on Housing and Economic Development 100 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Support with Amendment – LD 913, An Act to Prohibit Ticket Sellers from Prohibiting the Transfer of Tickets to Third Parties

Dear Chair Curry, Chair Gere and members of the Housing and Economic Development Committee:

On behalf of StubHub, the world's leading ticket marketplace, I am writing in support of LD 913 with amendments. StubHub advocates for a more transparent, secure, and competitive ticket marketplace—one that prioritizes fans and empowers consumer choice. Maine fans should have the freedom to decide what to do with the tickets they purchase—whether that's transferring, reselling, or donating them. And fans who purchase tickets on the resale market, should never have to worry about being turned away from the door.

Founded in 2000, StubHub revolutionized the ticket resale marketplace by providing a safe, secure and transparent platform to connect ticket buyers and sellers. In 2024, StubHub served over 20,000 Maine fans and brought over 7,000 visitors to Maine for events. Our industry leading FanProtect Guarantee¹ ensures buyers and sellers can transact with confidence, with each order protected and supported by a world-class customer service team.

The primary ticket market is broken, dominated by the practices of the Live Nation/Ticketmaster monopoly. To restrict competition and force consumers to their own resale platforms, primary ticket sellers use both restrictive terms and conditions, as well as technology to restrict ticket transfers and resales. To address this unfair practice, Colorado, New York, Connecticut, Virginia, Illinois, and Utah have enacted laws protecting consumers' right to transfer or resell tickets. We are encouraged and supportive of Maine codifying this important right on behalf of consumers.

The legislation exempts venues with a seating capacity of under 3,500, from the transfer provisions. While we understand the intent to exempt smaller venues, many of these venues are owned or operated by Live Nation or ticketed through Ticketmaster or other primary ticketing company. We urge the committee to amend the language to apply only to venues with a seating capacity below 3,500 and that are not owned, in whole or in part, operated, or exclusively ticketed by a publicly traded company or a corporate entity that operates multiple venues across state lines. This clarification

¹ https://support.stubhub.com/articles/61000276393-stubhubs-fanprotect-guarantee

will ensure the exemption is truly targeted towards small independent venues, not corporations.

Ensuring ticket transferability gives fans flexibility, encourages competition, improves customer service, and lowers prices. We encourage the committee to move forward with LD 913 as ought to pass, with the proposed amendment.

Respectfully,

David J. Garriepy Government Affairs StubHub