

THE WASHINGTON ACCESS AND VENUE EQUITY (WAVE) ACT tackles ticket fraud and hidden fees, protecting fans and strengthening Washington's arts and entertainment sector.

PROTECTING FANS

- » **All-In Pricing:** Full, upfront ticket prices including all taxes and fees. No surprise charges.
- » **No Speculative Tickets:** Resellers can't list tickets they don't actually have.
- » **Bot & Fraud Crackdown:** Outlaws automated bots and other scalping tools.
- » **Fan Resale Rights:** Individuals can freely resell or transfer their tickets—rules target commercial scalpers, not fans.
- » **Resale Price Cap & Refunds:** Non-sports events capped at 110% of face value (plus taxes/fees). Requires full refunds for canceled events or illegitimate tickets.
- » **Targeted Enforcement (Private Right of Action):** Lets consumers sue over major abuses like fraud, bots, and price gouging, but only with proof of monetary loss—ensuring responsible enforcement.

STABILIZING THE CREATIVE ECONOMY

- » **Licensing & Bonds:** Commercial resellers must be licensed and carry a \$25,000 surety bond, providing quick consumer recourse and enforcing accountability.
- » **Protecting Local Revenue:** Ensures nonprofit venue pricing benefits local arts groups, not scalpers.
- » **Self-Funded Enforcement:** Licensing and bond fees cover are expected to cover most—and potentially all—program costs, reducing pressure on the state budget.

SMART SCOPE & EXCEPTIONS

- » **Small Nonprofits:** Groups under \$500K in annual ticket revenue are exempt from licensing/bonding, while patrons still get full resale-cap and anti-fraud protections.
- » **Sports Tickets:** Sports tickets are exempt from the 110% resale cap due to dynamic pricing, but still subject to licensing, bonding, and all-in pricing.
- » **Fully Exempt:** Agricultural fairs, K-12 and higher-ed events, movie theaters, and Tribal cultural institutions are fully exempt.

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Photo: Audience at NFFTY. Photo by NFFTY.

