

SENATE BILL 709

I3

9lr2980
CF 9lr3029

By: **Senator Beidle**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commercial Law – Consumer Protection – Ticket Website Domain**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a certain person operating on behalf of a venue or an
4 entertainment event to use the word “official” in a certain lower-level domain name;
5 requiring certain ticket resellers to use the word “reseller” in the lower-level domain
6 name in the URL of a ticket website; and generally relating to ticket sales website
7 domain names.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Commercial Law
10 Section 14–4003
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Commercial Law**

16 14–4003.

17 [(a) This section does not apply to a person who is acting on behalf of a venue.]

18 **(A) A PERSON WHO OWNS, OPERATES, OR CONTROLS A TICKET WEBSITE**
19 **AND IS ACTING ON BEHALF OF A VENUE OR AN ENTERTAINMENT EVENT MAY USE IN**
20 **THE URL OF THE TICKET WEBSITE A LOWER-LEVEL DOMAIN NAME THAT CONTAINS**
21 **THE WORD “OFFICIAL”.**

22 (b) A person who owns, operates, or controls a ticket website [may] **AND IS NOT**
23 **ACTING ON BEHALF OF A VENUE OR AN ENTERTAINMENT EVENT:**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(1) SHALL USE THE WORD “RESELLER” IN THE LOWER-LEVEL**
2 **DOMAIN NAME OF THE URL OF THE TICKET WEBSITE; AND**

3 **(2) MAY** not use in the URL of the ticket website a lower-level domain
4 name that contains:

5 **[(1) (I)]** The name of the venue for which the ticket grants admission;

6 **[(2) (II)]** The name of the entertainment event, including the name of an
7 individual or a group scheduled to perform or appear at the event; or

8 **[(3) (III)]** A name substantially similar to the name in item **[(1) (I)]** or **[(2)**
9 **(II)]** of this [subsection] **ITEM.**

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
11 October 1, 2019.