

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1213 (Delegate Kagan)

Economic Matters

Consumer Protection - Tickets for Entertainment and Sporting Events - Fees

This bill limits the amount that a seller, reseller, or broker of tickets for an “entertainment or sporting event” may charge. It also requires a seller, reseller, or broker of tickets for an entertainment or sporting event to make specified disclosures regarding the charge.

Amount of the charge: The bill prohibits a seller, reseller, or broker of tickets from: (1) selling or reselling a ticket at a cost that exceeds 10% of the face value of the ticket; or (2) imposing a charge that exceeds \$2.50 per ticket if tickets are provided to the public at no charge.

Disclosure Requirements: The bill requires a seller, reseller, or broker of tickets to: (1) disclose to a purchaser of a ticket any charge in excess of the face value of the ticket prior to the sale of the ticket; (2) imprint the amount of the charge in excess of the face value of the ticket on the ticket or the receipt; and (3) disclose any charge in excess of the face value of the ticket in any printed or electronic advertisement.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Assuming that the Consumer Protection Division receives fewer than 50 complaints as a result of this bill, any additional workload could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal effect. Small businesses that sell or resell tickets for an entertainment or sporting events would not be able to charge a mark up price which exceeds 10% of the face value of the tickets.

Information Source: Attorney General's Office (Consumer Protection Division)

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 11, 1998

tlw

Analysis by: Jo Ellan Jordan

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710