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HB 77 - Consumer Protection - Sale and Resale of Event Tickets - Registration and Regulation

House Economic Matters Committee

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SUPPORT

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Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO

Madame Chair and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 77. On behalf of 700 affiliated unions, I offer the following comments.

Policymakers have to ensure fairness in the live-event marketplace with the establishment of commonsense price caps on ticket resale. HB 77 takes that approach and applies it in a way that protects Maryland consumers from the abuses of an increasingly unregulated market.

Countries such as Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, and Italy have already implemented similar limits successfully, and the results are that consumers pay more reasonable prices and the live-event ecosystem becomes more transparent and trustworthy. Maryland helped lead the way in the United States when this committee began examining ticket-resale abuses in 2024. Since then, the momentum has only grown. States including Maine, California, New York, and Oklahoma have all considered similar measures, recognizing that unchecked resale practices harm fans, families, and workers.

HB 77 builds on this by pairing price caps with strong registration requirements, transparency standards, and protections against speculative ticketing.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable vote on HB 77.



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