## As Introduced

## 136th General Assembly Regular Session

2025-2026

H. B. No. 563

1

## **Representative Hiner**

Cosponsors: Representatives Johnson, Fischer

To enact sections 1345.53 and 1345.54 of the

Revised Code to regulate ticket sales.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:	
Section 1. That sections 1345.53 and 1345.54 of the	3
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	4
Sec. 1345.53. (A) As used in this section and section	5
1345.54 of the Revised Code:	6
(1) "Entertainment" means all forms of entertainment,	7
including theatrical or operatic performances, dance, ballet,	8
concerts, motion pictures, entertainment at fairgrounds,	9
amusement parks, athletic competitions and other sports, and all	10
other forms of diversion, recreation, or show.	11
(2) "Internet domain name" means a globally unique,	12
hierarchical reference to an internet host or service, which is	13
assigned through a centralized internet naming authority and	14
which is composed of a series of character strings separated by	15
periods with the rightmost string specifying the top of the	16
hierarchy.	17
(3) "Online ticket marketplace" means the administrator of	18
a web site or other electronic service, including an agent,	19

employee, or assignee of the administrator, that sells tickets	20
or maintains a platform to facilitate the sale of tickets.	21
(4) "Operator" means a person, including an agent,	22
employee, or assignee of the person who does one or more of the	23
following:	24
(a) Owns, operates, or controls a place of entertainment;	25
(b) Produces entertainment;	26
(c) Sells a ticket to a place of entertainment for	27
original sale.	28
(5) "Operator's base ticket price" means the price per	29
ticket established by the operator.	30
(6) "Place of entertainment" means an entertainment	31
facility, including an amphitheater, theater, stadium, arena,	32
racetrack, museum, amusement park, venue, club, or other place	33
where performances, concerts, exhibits, athletic games,	34
contests, or other forms of entertainment are held.	35
(7) "Season ticket" means a ticket or group of tickets	36
that allows the holder to attend a series of events or	37
performances within a specific time period, whether they include	38
a portion of that series, such as a flex pass or a mini-	39
subscription, or the whole series, and are offered for original	40
sale by an operator.	41
(8) "Ticket-buying session" means an online interaction	42
between a purchaser and an online ticket marketplace, operator,	43
or ticket reseller measured as from the time a purchaser selects	44
a specific ticket and either completes the purchase or the	45
session times out.	46
(9)(a) "Ticket reseller" means a person that offers or	47

sells tickets for resale after the original sale to an	48
entertainment event located in this state and includes an	49
operator to the extent that the operator offers or sells tickets	50
for resale. Sales by a ticket reseller include sales by any	51
means, including in person or by telephone, mail, delivery	52
service, facsimile, internet, email, or other electronic means.	53
(b) "Ticket reseller" does not include a person that	54
purchases a ticket solely for the person's own use or the use of	55
the person's invitees, employees, or agents.	56
(10) "URL" means a uniform resource locator for a web site	57
on the internet.	58
(B) An operator shall, at all times during the ticket	59
listing and purchasing process, disclose in an easily readable	60
and conspicuous manner the total cost of the ticket, including	61
all fees and surcharges that must be paid in order to purchase	62
the ticket.	63
(C) A ticket reseller or online ticket marketplace shall,	64
at all times during the ticket listing and purchasing process,	65
disclose in an easily readable and conspicuous manner the total	66
cost in dollars of the ticket, including all fees, all	67
surcharges, and the amount above the operator's base ticket	68
price.	69
(D)(1) An operator, ticket reseller, or online ticket	7 C
marketplace shall disclose subtotals, fees, charges, or other	71
components of the total cost of a ticket in a way that is not	72
false or misleading, and such that the information is not	73
presented more prominently than, or in the same or larger font	7 4
as, the total cost of the ticket.	75
(2) An operator ticket resulter or online ticket	7.6

marketplace may disclose subtotals, fees, charges, and other	77
components of the total cost of the ticket in a manner that	78
allows the purchaser to hide or minimize the itemized list.	79
(3) An operator, ticket reseller, or online ticket	80
marketplace shall not increase the price of a ticket with	81
respect to a particular person after the ticket is first	82
displayed to that person. This division does not prohibit an	83
operator, ticket reseller, or online ticket marketplace from	84
doing any of the following:	85
(a) Charging a reasonable fee for the delivery of tickets	86
in a nonelectronic form, upon election of that delivery method	87
<pre>by the purchaser;</pre>	88
(b) Adding to the total cost additional purchases made by	89
the purchaser, so long as the cost of those additional purchases	90
are disclosed to the purchaser prior to the operator, ticket	91
reseller, or online ticket marketplace accepting payment;	92
(c) Increasing the ticket price based upon supply and	93
demand, provided the price is not changed in the same ticket-	94
buying session with a particular person after the price is first	95
displayed;	96
(d) Not disclosing the components or fees included in a	97
season ticket which combined make up the operator's base ticket	98
<pre>price.</pre>	99
(E)(1) A ticket reseller or online ticket marketplace	100
shall disclose in an easily readable and conspicuous manner on	101
the ticket reseller's or online ticket marketplace's web site or	102
electronic service all of the following:	103
(a) That the web site or electronic service is owned or	104
operated by a ticket reseller or online ticket marketplace and	105

that the price of a resale ticket may be higher or lower than	106
the original purchase price;	107
(b) That the purchaser is responsible for checking with	108
the place of entertainment for information on changes to the	109
event or cancellations prior to the event's start time;	110
(c) The refund policy of the ticket reseller or online	111
ticket marketplace.	112
(2) A ticket reseller or online ticket marketplace shall	113
require a purchaser to confirm having read the disclosures	114
required by division (E)(1) of this section before completing a	115
transaction.	116
(F) Within twenty-four hours after selling a resale	117
ticket, a ticket reseller or online ticket marketplace shall	118
provide proof of purchase to the purchaser, which shall include	119
all of the following:	120
(1) All event and ticket information;	121
(2) That the purchaser is responsible for checking with	122
the place of entertainment for information on changes to the	123
event or cancellations prior to the event's start time;	124
(3) The refund policy of the ticket reseller or online	125
ticket marketplace.	126
(G) An online ticket marketplace or ticket reseller shall	127
not use any words, image, trademark, copyright, web design, or	128
internet address that is identical or substantially similar to	129
words, images, trademark, copyright, web designs, or internet	130
addresses associated with a place of entertainment without the	131
written permission of the place of entertainment duly authorized	132
to provide the permission. This division does not prohibit an	133

online ticket marketplace from doing either or both of the	134
<pre>following:</pre>	135
(1) Using words containing the name of a place of	136
entertainment or of an event in order to describe the location	137
of the event or the event itself;	138
(2) Providing information or images identifying the	139
specific seat or area the purchaser will occupy in the place of	140
entertainment.	141
(H) This section does not apply to persons engaged in	142
annual aggregate transactions of less than five thousand	143
dollars.	144
Sec. 1345.54. (A) No person shall do any of the following:	145
(1) Sell or offer to sell more than one copy of the same	146
ticket to a place of entertainment;	147
(2) Directly or indirectly employ or compensate another	148
person to purchase tickets for the purpose of reselling the	149
tickets if the practice is prohibited by law or if the place of	150
entertainment posts a policy prohibiting the practice;	151
(3) Sell or offer to sell a ticket without first informing	152
the person of the location of the place of entertainment and the	153
ticket's assigned seat, including the seat number, row, and	154
<pre>section number of the seat;</pre>	155
(4) Sell or offer to sell a ticket for which there is no	156
assigned seat without first informing the person of the general	157
admission area to which the ticket corresponds;	158
(5) Advertise, offer for sale, or contract for the sale of	159
a ticket before the ticket has been made available to the	160
public, including via presale, without first obtaining	161

	1.00
permission from the place of entertainment and having actual or	162
constructive possession of the ticket, unless the ticket	163
reseller owns the ticket pursuant to a season ticket package	164
purchased by the ticket reseller.	165
(B) No operator, ticket reseller, or online ticket	166
marketplace shall use or caused to be used for reselling tickets	167
an internet domain name or subdomain with a web site URL that	168
contains the name of a place of entertainment, the name of an	169
event, the name of a person scheduled to perform or appear at an	170
event, or a name substantially similar to any of the foregoing,	171
unless the operator, ticket reseller, or online ticket	172
marketplace is acting on behalf of the place, event, or person.	173
(C) No person shall knowingly do any of the following:	174
(1) Circumvent any portion of the process for purchasing a	175
ticket on the internet or for admission to a place of	176
entertainment, including security or identity validation	177
<pre>measures or an access control system;</pre>	178
(2) Disguise the identity of a purchaser for the purpose	179
of purchasing a number of tickets for admission to a place of	180
entertainment that exceeds the maximum number of tickets allowed	181
for purchase by a person;	182
(3) Sell a ticket acquired in violation of division (C)(1)	183
or (2) of this section regardless of whether the person	184
participated in or had the ability to control the prohibited	185
conduct.	186
(D) An operator, online ticket marketplace, or ticket	187
reseller shall not sell a ticket unless one or both of the	188
following apply:	189
(1) The ticket is in the possession or constructive	190

H. B. No. 563 As Introduced	Page 8
possession of the operator, online ticket marketplace, or ticket	191
<pre>reseller;</pre>	192
(2) The operator, online ticket marketplace, or ticket	193
reseller has a written contract with the place of entertainment	194
to obtain the ticket.	195
(E) A violation of this section or section 1345.53 of the	196
Revised Code is an unfair or deceptive act or practice in	197
violation of section 1345.02 of the Revised Code. All powers and	198
remedies available to the attorney general to enforce sections	199
1345.01 to 1345.13 of the Revised Code are available to the	200
attorney general to enforce this section and section 1345.53 of	201
the Revised Code.	202