



**H.B. 508**

127th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps. Lundy and Evans, Foley, R. Hagan, B. Williams, J. McGregor,  
Harwood, Ujvagi, S. Williams**

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**BILL SUMMARY**

- Prohibits any person from engaging in certain activities concerning the resale of admission tickets to specified types of events without first obtaining a certificate of registration from the Director of Commerce.
- Prohibits any person who has obtained a certificate from purchasing or receiving admission tickets to specified types of events directly from the original ticket seller.
- Prohibits any person whose principal place of business is located outside Ohio from engaging in certain activities concerning the resale of admission tickets to specified types of events in Ohio to a person in Ohio without first having obtained a certificate from the Director.
- Exempts from the bill's prohibitions a person who resells an admission ticket for specified types of events at the original price established or charged by the original ticket seller.
- Specifies criminal penalties for violating the bill's prohibitions.
- Allows a prosecuting attorney to file an action to restrain any person found in violation of the bill's prohibitions.
- Requires the Director to promulgate rules to administer the bill.

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## CONTENT AND OPERATION

### Regulation of ticket brokers

Current law permits municipal corporations to regulate, by license or otherwise, the business of trafficking in theatrical tickets or other tickets of licensed amusements by parties not acting as agents of those parties issuing the tickets (sec. 715.48(B)).<sup>1</sup> The bill prohibits any person from purchasing with intent to resell, reselling or engaging in or continuing in the business of reselling any ticket of admission, or any other evidence of the right of entry, to any entertainment, sporting, or amusement event without first having obtained a certificate of registration from the Director of Commerce. A person who has obtained a certificate of registration is prohibited from purchasing or receiving tickets of admission, or any other evidence of the right of entry, to any entertainment, sporting, or amusement event, directly from the original ticket seller. (Sec. 1333.58(A) and (B).)

The bill also prohibits any person whose principal place of business is located outside the state from purchasing with intent to resell, reselling or engaging in or continuing in the business of reselling, any ticket of admission, or any other evidence of the right of entry, for any entertainment, sporting, or amusement event in the state to a person in Ohio without first having obtained a certificate of registration from the Director. (Sec. 1333.58(C).)

The bill specifies that the prohibitions against purchasing with intent to resell, reselling or engaging in or continuing in the business of reselling any ticket for any event described in the bill do not apply to a person who resells a ticket of admission, or any other evidence of the right of entry, for any entertainment, sporting, or amusement event, at the original price established or charged by the original ticket seller. (Sec. 1333.58(D).)

The bill requires the Director to promulgate rules for the administration of the bill (sec. 1333.58(E)).

### Penalties

Under the bill, if a person violates any of the prohibitions specified in the bill, that person is guilty of a first-degree misdemeanor for each single act of violation. Additionally, a prosecuting attorney may file an action to restrain any

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<sup>1</sup> Public school entertainments, lecture courses, and lectures on historic, literary, or scientific subjects are not subject to the municipal corporations regulations adopted pursuant to this provision (sec. 715.48(B)).

person found in violation of the bill's prohibitions. Upon the filing of such an action, the common pleas court may receive evidence of such violation and forthwith grant a temporary restraining order as may be prayed for, pending a hearing on the merits of said cause. (Sec. 1333.99(D) and (H).)

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## **HISTORY**

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-18-08

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