

## 93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2003 and 2004

Introduced 2/6/2004, by Don Harmon

## SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

720 ILCS 375/1 720 ILCS 375/1.5 from Ch. 121 1/2, par. 157.31 from Ch. 121 1/2, par. 157.32

Amends the Ticket Scalping Act. Provides that any term or condition of the original sale of a ticket to any theater, circus, baseball park, or place of public entertainment or amusement where tickets of admission are sold that purports to limit the terms or conditions of resale of the ticket (including but not limited to the resale price of the ticket) shall be unenforceable, null, and void, if the resale transaction is carried out under certain specified conditions. Provides that the Act does not apply to the sale of tickets of admission to a sporting event, theater, musical performance, or place of public entertainment or amusement of any kind for a price in excess of the printed box office ticket price by a seller engaged in interstate or intrastate commerce on an Internet Auction Listing Service duly registered with the Illinois Office of Banks and Real Estate under the Auction License Act. Provides that the Act does not apply to the sale of tickets of admission to a sporting event, theater, musical performance, or place of public entertainment or amusement of any kind for a price in excess of the printed box office ticket price conducted at an auction solely by or for a not-for-profit organization for charitable purposes.

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1 AN ACT concerning criminal law.

## Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Ticket Scalping Act is amended by changing Sections 1 and 1.5 as follows:
- 6 (720 ILCS 375/1) (from Ch. 121 1/2, par. 157.31)
- Sec. 1. <u>Sale of tickets other than at box office</u>

  8 prohibited; exceptions.
  - (a) It is unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, owner, lessee, manager, trustee, or any of their employees or agents, owning, conducting, managing or operating any theater, circus, baseball park, place of public entertainment or amusement where tickets of admission are sold for any such places of amusement or public entertainment to sell or permit the sale, barter or exchange of such admission tickets at any other place than in the box office or on the premises of such theater, circus, baseball park, place of public entertainment or amusement, but nothing herein prevents such theater, circus, baseball park, place of public entertainment or amusement from placing any of its admission tickets for sale at any other place at the same price such admission tickets are sold by such theater, circus, baseball park or other place of public entertainment or amusement at its box office or on the premises of such places, at the same advertised price or printed rate thereof.
- 26 (b) Any term or condition of the original sale of a ticket
  27 to any theater, circus, baseball park, or place of public
  28 entertainment or amusement where tickets of admission are sold
  29 that purports to limit the terms or conditions of resale of the
  30 ticket (including but not limited to the resale price of the
  31 ticket) shall be unenforceable, null, and void, if the resale
  32 transaction is carried out by the means set forth in Section

1.5 of this Act.
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2 (Source: Laws 1923, p. 322.)

- 3 (720 ILCS 375/1.5) (from Ch. 121 1/2, par. 157.32)
- Sec. 1.5. <u>Selling tickets for a price more than face value;</u>

  exceptions.
  - (a) Except as otherwise provided in <u>subsections</u> subsection (b), (c), and (d) of this Section and in Section 4, it is unlawful for any person, persons, firm or corporation to sell tickets for baseball games, football games, hockey games, theatre entertainments, or any other amusement for a price more than the price printed upon the face of said ticket, and the price of said ticket shall correspond with the same price shown at the box office or the office of original distribution.
  - (b) This Act does not apply to the sale of tickets of admission to a sporting event, theater, musical performance, or place of public entertainment or amusement of any kind for a price in excess of the printed box office ticket price by a ticket broker who meets all of the following requirements:
    - (1) The ticket broker is duly registered with the Office of the Secretary of State on a registration form provided by that Office. The registration must contain a certification that the ticket broker:
      - (A) engages in the resale of tickets on a regular and ongoing basis from one or more permanent or fixed locations located within this State;
      - (B) maintains as the principal business activity at those locations the resale of tickets;
      - (C) displays at those locations the ticket broker's registration;
      - (D) maintains at those locations a listing of the names and addresses of all persons employed by the ticket broker;
      - (E) is in compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local laws relating to its ticket selling activities, and that neither the ticket broker nor any

1	of its employees within the preceding 12 months have
2	been convicted of a violation of this Act; and
3	(F) that the ticket broker meets the following
4	requirements:
5	(i) maintains a statewide toll free number for
6	consumer complaints and inquiries;
7	(ii) has adopted a code that advocates
8	consumer protection that includes, at a minimum:
9	(a-1) consumer protection guidelines;
10	(b-1) a standard refund policy; and
11	(c-1) standards of professional conduct;
12	(iii) has adopted a procedure for the binding
13	resolution of consumer complaints by an
14	independent, disinterested third party; and
15	(iv) has established and maintains a consumer
16	protection rebate fund in an amount in excess of
17	\$100,000, at least 50% of which must be cash
18	available for immediate disbursement for
19	satisfaction of valid consumer complaints.
20	Alternatively, the ticket broker may fulfill the
21	requirements of subparagraph (F) of this subsection
22	(b) if the ticket broker certifies that he or she
23	belongs to a professional association organized under
24	the laws of this State, or organized under the laws of
25	any other state and authorized to conduct business in
26	Illinois, that has been in existence for at least 3
27	years prior to the date of that broker's registration
28	with the Office of the Secretary of State, and is
29	specifically dedicated, for and on behalf of its
30	members, to provide and maintain the consumer
31	protection requirements of subparagraph (F) of
32	subsection (b) to maintain the integrity of the ticket
33	brokerage industry.
34	(2) (Blank).
35	(3) The ticket broker and his employees must not engage

in the practice of selling, or attempting to sell, tickets

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for any event while sitting or standing near the facility 1 2 at which the event is to be held or is being held.

- (4) The ticket broker must comply with all requirements of the Retailers' Occupation Tax Act and all other applicable federal, State and local laws in connection with his ticket selling activities.
- (5) Beginning January 1, 1996, no ticket broker shall advertise for resale any tickets within this State unless the advertisement contains the name of the ticket broker and the Illinois registration number issued by the Office of the Secretary of State under this Section.
- (6) Each ticket broker registered under this Act shall pay an annual registration fee of \$100.

The provisions of this amendatory Act of 1995 are severable under Section 1.31 of the Statute on Statutes.

- (c) This Act does not apply to the sale of tickets of admission to a sporting event, theater, musical performance, or place of public entertainment or amusement of any kind for a price in excess of the printed box office ticket price by a seller engaged in interstate or intrastate commerce on an Internet Auction Listing Service duly registered with the Illinois Office of Banks and Real Estate under the Auction License Act. This subsection (c) shall apply to both sales through an online bid submission process and to sales at a fixed price on the same website or interactive computer service as the Internet Auction Listing Service registered with the Illinois Office of Banks and Real Estate.
- (d) This Act does not apply to the sale of tickets of admission to a sporting event, theater, musical performance, or place of public entertainment or amusement of any kind for a price in excess of the printed box office ticket price conducted at an auction solely by or for a not-for-profit organization for charitable purposes under clause (a) (1) of
- Section 10-1 of the Auction License Act. 34
- 35 (Source: P.A. 89-406, eff. 11-15-95.)