



## Resale Price Caps Fix the Broken Ticketing Ecosystem

### The Problem: The Broken Market

Fans expect a fair shot at live event tickets but instead face a rigged market dominated by bots and bulk buying technology that the exploitive resale market uses to hoard tickets, create artificial scarcity, and drive extreme markups.

Fans do everything right and still can't get tickets. Shows sell out in seconds, then immediately reappear on resale sites at inflated prices. Forced into the secondary market, families pay far more than face value or are shut out of shows completely due to affordability. Price gouging adds to the burden on middle-class American families already struggling with rising costs for housing, groceries, utilities, gas, and healthcare.

### Lack of Affordability Shuts out Fans

- Price gouging deepens the burden on middle-class Americans. Families are already struggling with rising costs for housing, groceries, utilities, gas, and healthcare.
- Fans are often forced into the secondary market, where they pay far more than the original ticket price.
- Some fans even report taking on debt or missing payments just to be able to attend events.
- Resale price caps keep live entertainment within reach for American families instead of turning it into a luxury only the wealthy can afford.

### And Harms Small Businesses:

- According to the [State of Live](#), independent venues are not only cultural cornerstones, they are [economic engines that support the local economy and job market](#). Meanwhile, many local venues are struggling to survive [64% of venues nationwide are operating without profitability](#).
- When tickets are resold at extreme markups by third-party scalpers, that money does not circulate through the local economy nor go to the venues, staff, and artists who put in the hard work to bring the event to life. It is siphoned out of state for their own profit.
- Airlines and hotels tightly control pricing and don't allow third parties to resell access at inflated rates. Tickets should be treated the same way: access to a service with guardrails, not an opportunity for unchecked markups.

### The Solution: Resale Price Caps

- Other states are already taking action. In Maine, resale prices have been capped at no more than 10 percent of the original total cost of the ticket, and there are more than 16 bipartisan bills moving through legislatures across the country in states like Delaware, Oklahoma, Tennessee, California, Hawaii, Kansas, Maryland, Washington D.C., Washington state, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Vermont to cap the resale of concert tickets.
- And in Australia, Belgium, the United Kingdom, and France, governments are banning ticket resale above the original price and capping resale fees to protect fans from exploitative markups.

**The Bottom Line:**

- Today's resale market is manipulated, not free.
- Small businesses and local economies are losing revenue.
- Resale price caps keep live entertainment accessible for working families, instead of turning it into a luxury item few can afford.

**We urge legislators to restore fairness, affordability, and trust in the live entertainment marketplace and pass resale price caps for the secondary ticketing market.**