

Members of the New York State Legislature:

On behalf of the [Music Artists Coalition](#) (MAC) and the music creators we represent, we write to express our strong support for bills [A.8659](#) / [S.8221](#). This comprehensive ticketing reform legislation addresses critical problems that harm artists and the fans who support our music.

**What we want is simple: do not interfere with our artists' relationship with our fans.** As musicians, MAC's members create their art with the hope that it will connect with people. They want their fans to be able to attend shows at a reasonable price that enables them to craft a unique musical experience. They don't want their fans competing against brokers, or bots, who intercept these tickets and drive up the price, diverting money from fans' wallets to people who have no involvement whatsoever in the creation of the shows and music.

The artists we represent want the ability to stop skyrocketing ticket prices and this legislation makes that possible. If artists don't want someone to be able to markup their tickets, they should be able to say so. If artists want working families in New York to be able to afford to see their shows, they should be able to say so. This bill makes that possible in New York.

We also want to end the practice of someone selling a ticket that they don't own. This practice, called speculative ticketing, is unheard of in other industries. How can someone sell something that they do not own? Even before our artists' tickets are put on sale for the general public, shady resellers are already listing them at inflated prices. Then, often using bots, they go and buy tickets at the face value price and resell them at the inflated price.

We've heard many stories of fans flying to a show, staying in a hotel, only to get to the ticket scanner and find out that the speculative ticket is not a real ticket. The resellers might offer to refund the money for the ticket, but it doesn't solve the fan getting shut out from the show. This bill ends speculative ticketing by requiring resellers to actually own tickets or have written contracts before they can sell them. This simple requirement protects fans from fraud and ensures artists can maintain trust with their audiences.

Music creates community. Live performance builds the connection between artists and audiences that sustains careers and enriches lives. Predatory ticketing practices damage that connection by pricing out real fans and creating distrust through fraud and speculation. These bills establish basic rules that protect both artists and fans from the worst abuses while preserving legitimate business practices.

We urge the full Assembly and Senate to pass this important consumer and artist protection legislation. Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue affecting New York's vibrant music community.

Sincerely,

The Board Members of the Music Artists Coalition

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