

NEWS RELEASE



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For further information:
Bill Newton, FCAN: (813) 877-6712

HB 225 and SB 392 Provide Consumers with Fair and Transparent Ticket Practices *Separating Myths from Fact on Legislation to Protect Consumers' Rights*

Tampa, FL – The Florida Consumer Action Network (FCAN), the state's voice for consumers, supports HB 225 and SB 392 to ensure transparency and transferability in the ticket market.

"This legislation simply ensures that consumers who purchase a ticket to an event will have ownership of that ticket and ensures choice in the ticket market," said Bill Newton, executive director of FCAN. "There is a lot of misinformation surrounding this legislation, and it is important that Florida consumers know the facts."

FACTS ABOUT HB 225 AND SB 392:

- **HB 225 & SB 392 PROTECT A COMPETITIVE, TRANSPARENT AND FREE MARKET:** HB 225 and SB 392 will ensure that consumers have the right to sell or transfer their ticket any way they choose, to anyone they choose, at any price they choose. This is the essence of a well-functioning free market.
- **HB 225 & SB 392 PROTECT BASIC RIGHTS OF FANS:** We have all given tickets away to friends and family, or sold tickets to colleagues when forced to back out of a game or concert. HB 225 and 392 protect these basic freedoms that we have all enjoyed.
- **HB 225 & SB 392 CURB PREDATORY PRACTICES OF THE TICKET INDUSTRY:** HB 225 and SB 392 ensure that teams, venues or companies like Ticketmaster cannot employ restrictive technologies (like restrictive paperless tickets) that lock valid ticketholders out of events.

MYTHS ABOUT HB 225 AND SB 392:

- **HB 225 & SB 392 REMOVE PROTECTIONS FOR NONPROFIT VENUES:** This is false. HB 225 and SB 392 will uphold the current law that holds secondary ticket sellers responsible for refunding the tickets they have sold on the secondary market. The original ticket seller will not be held responsible for refunding tickets purchased on the secondary market.
- **HB 225 & SB 392 GIVE SCALPERS UNLIMITED ACCESS TO TICKETS:** This is false. HB 225 and SB 392 will not affect in any way how a venue can choose to restrict the number of tickets that a customer can purchase.
- **HB 225 & SB 392 HURT CONSUMERS:** This is false. HB 225 and SB 392 will HELP consumers by ensuring their right to transfer tickets and recoup losses if they cannot attend an event.

- **HB 225 & SB 392 PREVENT DYNAMIC PRICING:** This is false. HB 225 and SB 392 do not prevent dynamic pricing. In fact, a free and open secondary market often results in below-face value ticket sales, one of the touted consumer benefits of dynamic ticket pricing.

FCAN is a grassroots organization headquartered in Tampa which empowers citizens to influence public policy by organizing and educating in areas where consumer voices are underrepresented. Executive Director Bill Newton is a board member of the Consumer Federation of America. For more information, visit: www.fcan.org.

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