

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 992

S.P. 426

In Senate, March 11, 2025

**An Act to Protect Consumers from Hidden Fees and Ensure
Transparent Pricing for Live Event Tickets and Short-term Lodging**

Reference to the Committee on Housing and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator NANGLE of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senator: President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 10 MRSA c. 239** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 239**

4 **FEE TRANSPARENCY**

5 **§1500-Z. Fee transparency**

6 **1. Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the
7 following terms have the following meanings.

8 A. "Mandatory fee" means a fee or charge required as part of the advertised price,
9 including, but not limited to, a resort fee, service charge or convenience fee.

10 B. "Short-term lodging" means an accommodation for transient occupancy in a hotel,
11 motel, vacation rental or similar establishment, typically for under 30 days.

12 C. "Ticket" has the same meaning as in Title 8, section 1301, subsection 1, paragraph
13 C.

14 **2. Total price disclosure.** A person advertising or offering for rent or renting a short-
15 term lodging or a person advertising or offering for sale or selling a ticket shall:

16 A. Clearly and conspicuously disclose the total price of the ticket or short-term lodging,
17 including any mandatory fee, whenever the price is advertised or displayed;

18 B. Display the total price of the ticket or short-term lodging more prominently than
19 other pricing information in all advertisements, offers or displays; and

20 C. Provide a complete itemization of the total price of the ticket or short-term lodging
21 that includes the nature, purpose and amount of any mandatory fee in a font size smaller
22 than that of the total price.

23 **3. Prohibited practices.** A person may not:

24 A. Misrepresent any fee or charge associated with a ticket or short-term lodging in any
25 advertisement, offer or display; or

26 B. Exclude a mandatory fee from the advertised price of a ticket or short-term lodging
27 without clearly and conspicuously disclosing the nature, purpose and amount of the
28 mandatory fee prior to a consumer's consenting to pay for the ticket or short-term
29 lodging.

30 **4. Enforcement.** The Attorney General shall enforce this section.

31 **5. Private cause of action.** A consumer harmed by a violation of this section may bring
32 an action in court against the person in violation of this section.

33 **6. Violation.** A person that violates this section is subject to treble damages and a
34 penalty not to exceed \$5,000 per occurrence.

1 **SUMMARY**

2 This bill requires persons selling tickets to entertainment events and renting short-term
3 lodging to fully disclose all mandatory fees and display the total price of the ticket or
4 lodging more prominently than other pricing information. The bill requires enforcement by
5 the Attorney General, allows for a private cause of action by a consumer harmed by a
6 violation of the prize disclosure requirements and provides that a person who violates the
7 price disclosure requirements is subject to treble damages and a penalty not to exceed
8 \$5,000 for each violation.