

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

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Legislative Document

No. 1901

H.P. 1318

House of Representatives, March 16, 1999

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**An Act to Prohibit the Scalping of Entertainment Tickets.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative SULLIVAN of Biddeford.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAGLEY of Machias, DUDLEY of Portland, GERRY of Auburn, NORBERT of Portland, O'NEIL of Saco, SANBORN of Alton, TWOMEY of Biddeford, Senator: RAND of Cumberland.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 8 MRSA c. 31 is enacted to read:**

6 **CHAPTER 31**

8 **THEATRICAL EXHIBITIONS, SPORTING OR ATHLETIC EVENTS,  
PUBLIC SHOWS AND PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS**

10 **§951. Definitions**

12 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
14 indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

16 1. Public facility. "Public facility" means any building  
18 or facility that is constructed in part or totally with funds  
20 from any source appropriated or allocated by a public entity.

22 2. Service charge. "Service charge" means any cost  
24 incurred related to the procurement and sale of a ticket by a  
26 ticket selling agency, including any charge for postage,  
28 long-distance telephone calls or fees attributable to extensions  
30 of credit.

32 3. Ticket. "Ticket" means evidence of the right to enter  
34 any theatrical exhibition, sporting or athletic event, public  
36 show, public amusement or exhibition of any description at a  
38 public facility.

40 **§952. Resale of tickets**

42 1. Violation. A person may not resell a ticket for  
44 admission to any theatrical exhibition, sporting or athletic  
46 event, public show, public amusement or exhibition at a public  
48 facility at a price greater than \$2 over the price printed on the  
face of the ticket.

2. Exception. A person may charge in excess of the amount  
permitted under subsection 1 if the charge is attributable to a  
service charge.

3. Penalty. A person who violates this section commits a  
civil violation for which a forfeiture of not less than \$100 or  
more than \$500 may be adjudged.

**SUMMARY**

This bill makes it unlawful to resell a ticket to a sporting event or other public entertainment at a public facility at an inflated price, a practice commonly known as "ticket scalping."