



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1378

PRINTER'S NO. 1538

PRIME SPONSOR: MALAGARI

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY:

Amends the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law by adding a new section making it unlawful to use or sell software designed to circumvent online ticket sales systems.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 1378 amends the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law by adding a section making it unlawful to use any software product that circumvents online ticketing systems for the purpose of purchasing tickets for resale by running automated tasks, disabling or circumventing online queues, or disabling security measures.

The bill also makes it unlawful to sell or make available software or products that allow for any of the activities described.

The bill provides exemptions for software or products like those described above that are used for research purposes or to identify flaws in online ticketing systems.

Operators who provide online ticketing that suffer injury under the provisions of this legislation would be allowed to bring civil action against individuals using or making available the unlawful products to seek damages for the injury, plus \$1,000 for each ticket sale made in violation of this provision and reasonable attorney's fees.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation will have no impact on Commonwealth funds. Any additional costs resulting from enforcement of this legislation will be absorbed by the existing budget and resources of the Office of Attorney General.

PREPARED BY: Pat Shaughnessy
House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: October 13, 2023

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.