



Connecticut Association for  
the Performing Arts

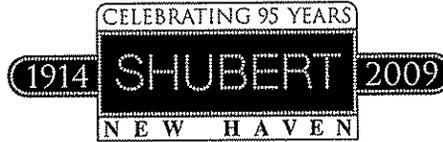
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Shubert Theater  
Operated by CAPA  
A Connecticut Not-For-Profit  
Organization

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Birthplace of the Nation's Greatest Hits

February 25, 2010

Testimony Regarding  
**HB-05228, AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALES OF EVENT TICKETS  
ON THE SECONDARY MARKET**

The Shubert Theater operated by the Connecticut Association for the Performing Arts, a not-for-profit performing arts venue located in New Haven, Connecticut, respectfully and strongly opposes HB-05228, An Act Concerning the Sales of Event Tickets on the Secondary Market.

We feel though introduced as a well intended measure and protection for the consumer, the actual effect would be to impose severe reporting burdens on Connecticut not-for-profits, limit entertainment choices for consumers, put union jobs at risk, and significantly hamper economic growth in our state.

This legislation if enacted would be the most restrictive legislation of its type in any state. Significant negative impact to Connecticut would include: The most popular performers may bypass Connecticut rather than disclose how they choose to allocate their ticket resources to their fans. Performers view this as a significant artist's rights issue, and acts demand the final say in how their ticket resources are allocated. Connecticut venues already struggle with intense and growing competition from larger surrounding markets.

Consumers will have fewer entertainment choices. With artists opting not to play in our state, consumers will travel outside of our state to see their favorite shows, taking their significant economic spin-off activity generated for Connecticut merchants, hotels, restaurants and parking facilities to New York and Massachusetts.

Fewer acts touring in our state is bad for business. Lost shows mean lost jobs for union workers. Work for union crews and stagehands that staff many of the state's largest performance venues will sharply decline and jobs will be lost at a time of unprecedented economic uncertainty.

Venue reporting burdens are significant and would be the most restrictive of any state. We and our not-for-profit venue colleagues have been particularly hard hit under current economic conditions. Many have endured significant staff furloughs and lay-offs, and no longer have the resources required to meet the unprecedented level of reporting this bill would mandate.

Though drafted with admirable aims, this bill would significantly damage Connecticut's already struggling entertainment industry. The negative impact will ripple through our state's economy—eliminating jobs in our industry, lessening consumer entertainment choices, and providing our neighbors in New York and Massachusetts with increased competitive advantage. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Respectfully

John F. Fisher  
Executive Director