

SENATE, No. 770

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator NICHOLAS P. SCUTARI

District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits certain violations of terms of service for Internet ticket sales.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning certain ticket sales and supplementing
2 P.L.1983, c.135 (C.56:8-26 et seq.).

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. It shall be a violation of P.L.1983, c.135 (C.56:8-26 et seq.)
8 for a person to use or cause to be used:

9 a. Any means, method, or technology that is designed,
10 intended, or functions to disguise the identity of the purchaser with
11 the purpose of purchasing or attempting to purchase via Internet
12 sale a quantity of tickets to a place of entertainment in excess of
13 authorized limits established by the owner or operator of a place of
14 entertainment or of the entertainment event or an agent of any such
15 person; or

16 b. Software, or other technology or device, that is designed,
17 intended, or functions to interfere with a computer, computer
18 network, or computer system, or any part thereof, for the purpose of
19 purchasing or attempting to purchase via Internet sale a quantity of
20 tickets to a place of entertainment in excess of authorized limits
21 established by the owner or operator of a place of entertainment or
22 of the entertainment event or an agent of any such person, or that is
23 designed, intended or functions to circumvent or disable any access
24 control systems, electronic queues, waiting periods or other sales
25 volume limitation systems to ensure the equitable distribution of
26 tickets instituted on the website of the ticket seller.

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28 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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33 This bill supplements the law regarding ticket sales and resales
34 in New Jersey. The bill prohibits the use of computer programs,
35 commonly referred to as “ticket bots,” that are used to circumvent
36 controls on ticket seller websites, which controls require users to
37 disclose their identity and comply with equitable distribution
38 procedures, such as electronic queues and limitations on ticket
39 quantity. Many Internet ticket sellers currently require users to
40 agree to terms of service which prohibit the use of ticket bots, but
41 violations are not specifically addressed in State law.

42 Specifically, the bill prohibits the use of any means, method or
43 technology that disguises the identity of the purchaser with the
44 purpose of purchasing, via Internet sale, a quantity of tickets to a
45 place of entertainment in excess of authorized limits. Additionally,
46 the bill prohibits the use of software that interferes with a computer
47 system for the purpose of purchasing, via Internet sale, a quantity of
48 tickets to a place of entertainment in excess of authorized limits or

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1 that is designed to disable any access control systems, electronic
2 queues, waiting periods or other sales volume limitation systems to
3 ensure the equitable distribution of tickets instituted on the website
4 of the ticket seller.

5 A violation of the ticket sale law, which this bill supplements, is
6 a crime of the fourth degree, punishable by up to 18 months
7 imprisonment, up to a \$10,000 fine, or both.