Submission in response to consultation on ticket reselling in New Zealand

Name (full)

Simon Williams

Organisation (if applicable)

Submitter category

Individual consumer

Have you experienced problems with ticket resale?

Yes, I have personally experienced a problem

Please share your experiences, either positive or negative

I have missed out on tickets to shows I wish to attend and then discovered tickets immediately available for resale.

Your views on the issues

Are these problems serious enough to require changes to the law or industry practices?

Yes

Tell us what you think

Scalping harms genuine consumers without giving anything to the promoters. It's annoying for everyone involved, bar the scalpers who are vultures profiting from other's art. It should be easy to curb with a few simple changes.

Your views on the options, and the pros and cons

Price cap on resale tickets:

Option C: Original sale price + resale costs

Why did you choose the option above? Please explain

Anyone genuinely reselling a ticket should be allowed to do so whilst recouping their costs. They don't need to make a profit.

More information disclosure: Do you agree with this option? Why or why not?

No - I think it's unfair to require promoters to disclose how many tickets are remaining as it could harm their sales process, for example by putting people off buying tickets if sales are low. The law changes should encourage live performances and this change could be detrimental.

Ban on ticket-buying bots: Do you agree with this option? Why or why not?

Yes. This is an absolute no-brainer - tickets should be sold directly to the people attending the shows.

Joint industry-government actions: Do you agree with this option? Why or why not?

Yes, the government and the industry should work together on this problem as there will be benefits for consumers and promoters.

Are there other solutions that would work well?

Events that are general admission should have smaller maximum ticket limits per person, 2 or 4 for R18 events and 6 for family events.