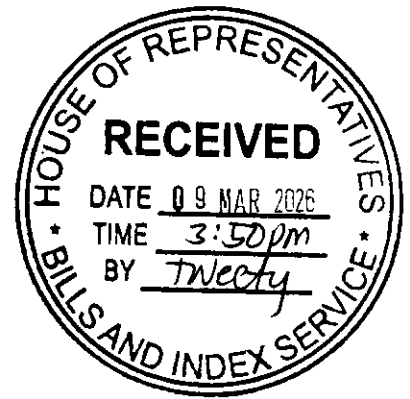


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8373



Introduced by: Hon. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan

AN ACT
PROHIBITING THE SELLING AND/OR BUYING OF ADMISSION TICKETS
THROUGH UNAUTHORIZED SALES CHANNELS, PROVIDING PENALTIES
THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Ticket scalping, or the unauthorized resale of admission tickets at prices significantly above original value, has become an increasingly pervasive issue in the Philippines, especially with the rapid growth of live entertainment, sporting, and cultural events. Scalpers often purchase large quantities of tickets through official sales channels and then resell them at inflated prices, exploiting high demand and limiting fair access for ordinary consumers and fans. This practice has contributed to consumer frustration, diminished access to events, and uneven enforcement of existing regulations, which remain largely fragmented across local ordinances and general consumer protection laws. Currently, ticket scalping at the national level is not comprehensively addressed under existing Philippine law¹, though some local government units (LGUs) such as Quezon City and Pasay City have enacted local ordinances to curb the practice within their jurisdiction.

Although national consumer protection laws such as the Consumer Act of the Philippines (Republic Act No. 7394) generally safeguard consumers against deceptive, unfair, and unconscionable sales practices, they do not specifically prohibit the exploitative resale of event tickets. This legislative gap has resulted in inconsistent enforcement and has allowed scalping to thrive through both physical and online channels. Secondary markets, especially online platforms, frequently operate beyond the reach of local anti-scalping ordinances, further disadvantaging consumers and harming the integrity of the entertainment and sports industries.²

This bill seeks to protect the interests of consumers and promote fairness in the sale and distribution of admission tickets by harmonizing and strengthening

¹ spot.ph. (2024). *What does Philippine law say about ticket scalping?* Retrieved from <https://www.spot.ph/news/features/policy/110204/what-does-philippine-law-say-about-ticket-scalping-a5229-20241008>

² *Ibid.*

the regulatory framework, closing the gaps left by local ordinances and supplementing existing consumer protection mechanisms. By deterring exploitative ticket reselling practices, the law will ensure that genuine consumers and fans have fair and equitable access to events at reasonable prices.

In view thereof, immediate consideration of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Tan', is positioned above the printed name.

Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan
4th District, Quezon

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Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Anti-Ticket Scalping Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect the interests of consumers, promote general welfare, and establish standards of conduct for business and industry. Towards this end, the State shall implement measures to protect the consumers against deceptive, unfair, and unconscionable sales acts and practices.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - For the purposes of this Act:

- a) *Admission Ticket* refers to evidence of a right of entry to an entertainment event, whether printed or digital;
- b) *Entertainment Event* refers to any event, occasion, occurrence or activity that provides amusement or recreation organized by persons, which are open to the public and involves the distribution of admission tickets such as sports shows, concerts, stage performances, beauty pageants, festivals, road shows, fan meets or any similar undertakings;
- c) *Face Value* refers to the price of the ticket set by the event producer or organizer or the original purchase price of an admission ticket; and
- d) *Resale* refers to the act of selling admission tickets previously sold to someone else.

SEC. 4. *Prohibition of Ticket Scalping.* - The following acts shall constitute ticket scalping, whether committed online or in person:

- a) Offering, hoarding, selling, distributing, buying, dealing in, disposing of or otherwise obtaining admission tickets for entertainment events, without the written permission from the authorized event producer, organizer and distributor, for the purpose of reselling for more than ten percent (10%) higher than the face value price of the ticket, Provided, that the ten percent (10%) increase or markup shall be subject to the periodic review and update by the implementing agencies; and
- b) Financing, managing, or operating ticket scalping activities

SEC. 5. *Other Offenses.* – The following shall also constitute as offenses under this Act:

- a) Offering or selling admission tickets for entertainment events without providing the face value price on each ticket;
- b) Selling admission tickets on any platform other than the authorized reselling platform;
- c) Willfully aiding or abetting in the commission of any of the offenses enumerated under Section 4; and
- d) Willfully attempting to commit any of the offenses enumerated under Section 4.

SEC. 6. *Duties and Responsibilities of Entities Engaged in the Business of Event Ticketing, Event Production, and Event Services.* – Within ninety (90) days from the issuance of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Act, all entities engaged in the business of event ticketing, event production, and event services that organizes, sells, distributes or resells admission tickets shall post, publish or display digital and/or physical signages on their websites and on conspicuous places within their premises, warning against ticket scalping. In addition, these entities are also mandated to adopt, implement and enforce respective internal policy guidelines, prevention and reporting mechanisms on ticket scalping.

SEC. 7. *Institution of Complaint.* – The Department of Justice (DOJ), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) through its relevant bureaus or attached agencies, and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), including all enforcement agencies, may institute a complaint for violation of this Act before the appropriate court.

SEC. 8. *Penalties.* –

- a) The following penalties shall be imposed upon any person found guilty of any act prohibited in Section 4 hereof:
 - 1. For the first offense, a fine of One hundred thousand pesos (Php 100,000.00) or imprisonment of six (6) months, or both, at the discretion of the court;

2. For the second offense, a fine of Two hundred fifty thousand pesos (Php 250,000.00) or imprisonment of one (1) year, or both, at the discretion of the court;
 3. For the third and subsequent offenses, a fine of Five hundred thousand pesos (Php 500,000.00) or imprisonment of three (3) years, or both, at the discretion of the court.
- b) The following penalties shall be imposed upon any person found guilty of any act prohibited in Sections 5 and 6 hereof:
1. For the first offense, a fine of Fifty thousand pesos (Php 50,000.00);
 2. For the second offense, a fine of One hundred thousand pesos (Php 100,000.00) or imprisonment of six (6) months, or both, at the discretion of the court;
 3. For the third and subsequent offenses, a fine of Two hundred fifty thousand pesos (Php 250,000.00) or imprisonment of one (1) year, or both, at the discretion of the court;
 4. If the offender is a corporation, the penalty may, at the discretion of the court, be imposed upon such corporation and/or upon its directors, trustees, stockholders, members, officers, or employees responsible for the violation or indispensable to its commission.

SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DILG and DTI, in coordination with other relevant agencies, shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for implementing the law.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or part thereof, contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.* - If any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, all other sections or provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 12. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette and/or in at least two (2) newspapers of general publication in the Philippines.

Approved,