

Chapter 42

(Senate Bill 154)

AN ACT concerning

Commercial Law – Interference With Internet Ticket Sales – Prohibition

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from intentionally selling or using certain software to circumvent a security measure, an access control system, or any other control or measure on a certain Web site that is used to ensure an equitable ticket buying process; providing that a violation of this Act is an unfair or deceptive trade practice under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act and is subject to certain enforcement and penalty provisions; defining certain terms; and generally relating to ticket sales on the Internet.

BY adding to

Article – Commercial Law

Section 14–4001 through 14–4003 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 40.
Interference With Internet Ticket Sales”

Annotated Code of Maryland
(2013 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Commercial Law

SUBTITLE 40. INTERFERENCE WITH INTERNET TICKET SALES.

14–4001.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) (1) “ENTERTAINMENT EVENT” MEANS:

(I) A PERFORMANCE;

(II) A RECREATION;

(III) AN AMUSEMENT;

(IV) A DIVERSION;

- (V) A SPECTACLE;
- (VI) A SHOW; OR
- (VII) ANY SIMILAR EVENT.

(2) “ENTERTAINMENT EVENT” INCLUDES:

- (I) A THEATRICAL OR MUSICAL PERFORMANCE;
- (II) A CONCERT;
- (III) A FILM;
- (IV) A GAME;
- (V) A RIDE; AND
- (VI) A SPORTING EVENT.

(C) “TICKET” MEANS A TICKET FOR ADMISSION TO AN ENTERTAINMENT EVENT.

14-4002.

A PERSON MAY NOT INTENTIONALLY SELL OR USE SOFTWARE TO CIRCUMVENT A SECURITY MEASURE, AN ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEM, OR ANY OTHER CONTROL OR MEASURE ON A TICKET SELLER’S WEB SITE THAT IS USED TO ENSURE AN EQUITABLE TICKET BUYING PROCESS.

14-4003.

A VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE IS:

- (1) AN UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICE WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 13 OF THIS ARTICLE; AND
- (2) SUBJECT TO THE ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTY PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN TITLE 13 OF THIS ARTICLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor, April 8, 2014.