

[Committee Print]

[SHOWING THE TEXT OF H.R. 2713, AS FORWARDED BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE
ON COMMERCE, MANUFACTURING, AND TRADE ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2026]

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2713

To improve online ticket sales and protect consumers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 8, 2025

Mrs. HARSHBARGER (for herself and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana) introduced
the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and
Commerce

A BILL

To improve online ticket sales and protect consumers, and
for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Mitigating Automated
5 Internet Networks for Event Ticketing Act” or the
6 “MAIN Event Ticketing Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STRENGTHENING THE BOTS ACT.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2 of the Better Online
3 Ticket Sales Act of 2016 (15 U.S.C. 45c) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

5 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

6 (i) by inserting “online” before “ticket
7 issuer”; and

8 (ii) by striking “; or” and inserting a
9 semicolon;

10 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
11 period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

12 (C) by adding at the end the following new
13 subparagraph:

14 “(C) to use or cause to be used an applica-
15 tion that performs automated tasks to purchase
16 event tickets from an Internet website or online
17 service in circumvention of posted online ticket
18 purchasing order rules of the Internet website
19 or online service, including a software applica-
20 tion that circumvents an access control system,
21 security measure, or other technological control
22 or measure.”;

23 (2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as
24 subsections (c) and (d), respectively;

25 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
26 lowing new subsection:

1 “(b) REQUIRING ONLINE TICKET ISSUERS TO PUT
2 IN PLACE SITE POLICIES AND ESTABLISH SAFEGUARDS
3 TO PROTECT SITE SECURITY.—

4 “(1) REQUIREMENT TO ENFORCE SITE POLI-
5 CIES.—Each ticket issuer that owns or operates an
6 Internet website or online service that facilitates or
7 executes the sale of event tickets shall ensure that
8 such website or service has in place an access control
9 system, security measure, or other technological con-
10 trol or measure to enforce posted event ticket pur-
11 chasing limits.

12 “(2) REQUIREMENT TO ESTABLISH SITE SECU-
13 RITY SAFEGUARDS.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each ticket issuer
15 that owns or operates an Internet website or
16 online service that facilitates or executes the
17 sale of event tickets shall establish, implement,
18 and maintain reasonable administrative, tech-
19 nical, and physical safeguards to protect the se-
20 curity, confidentiality, integrity, or availability
21 of the website or service.

22 “(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing
23 the safeguards described in subparagraph (A),
24 each ticket issuer described in such paragraph
25 shall consider—

1 “(i) the administrative, technical, and
2 physical safeguards that are appropriate to
3 the size and complexity of the ticket issuer;

4 “(ii) the nature and scope of the ac-
5 tivities of the ticket issuer;

6 “(iii) the sensitivity of any customer
7 information at issue; and

8 “(iv) the range of security risks and
9 vulnerabilities that are reasonably foresee-
10 able or known to the ticket issuer.

11 “(C) THIRD PARTIES AND SERVICE PRO-
12 VIDERS.—

13 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Where applicable,
14 a ticket issuer that owns or operates an
15 Internet website or online service that fa-
16 cilitates or executes the sale of event tick-
17 ets shall implement and maintain proce-
18 dures to require that any third party or
19 service provider that performs services with
20 respect to the sale of event tickets or has
21 access to data regarding event ticket pur-
22 chasing on the website or service maintains
23 reasonable administrative, technical, and
24 physical safeguards to protect the security

1 and integrity of the website or service and
2 that data.

3 “(ii) OVERSIGHT PROCEDURE RE-
4 QUIREMENTS.—The procedures imple-
5 mented and maintained by a ticket issuer
6 in accordance with clause (i) shall include
7 the following:

8 “(I) Taking reasonable steps to
9 select and retain service providers
10 that are capable of maintaining ap-
11 propriate safeguards for the customer
12 information at issue.

13 “(II) Requiring service providers
14 by contract to implement and main-
15 tain adequate safeguards.

16 “(III) Periodically assessing serv-
17 ice providers based on the risk they
18 present and the continued adequacy of
19 their safeguards.

20 “(D) UPDATES.—A ticket issuer that owns
21 or operates an Internet website or online service
22 that facilitates or executes the sale of event
23 tickets shall regularly evaluate and make ad-
24 justments to the safeguards described in sub-
25 paragraph (A) in light of any material changes

1 in technology, internal or external threats to
2 system security, confidentiality, integrity, and
3 availability, and the changing business arrange-
4 ments or operations of the ticket issuer.

5 “(3) REQUIREMENT TO REPORT INCIDENTS OF
6 CIRCUMVENTION; CONSUMER COMPLAINTS.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A ticket issuer that
8 owns or operates an Internet website or online
9 service that facilitates or executes the sale of
10 event tickets shall report to the Commission
11 any incidents of circumvention of which the
12 ticket issuer has actual knowledge.

13 “(B) CONSUMER COMPLAINT WEBSITE.—
14 Not later than 180 days after the date of enact-
15 ment of the Mitigating Automated Internet
16 Networks for Event Ticketing Act, the Commis-
17 sion shall create a publicly available website (or
18 modify an existing publicly available website of
19 the Commission) to allow individuals to report
20 violations of this subsection to the Commission.

21 “(C) REPORTING TIMELINE AND PROC-
22 ESS.—

23 “(i) TIMELINE.—A ticket issuer shall
24 report incidents of circumvention of which
25 such issuer has actual knowledge within a

1 reasonable period of time after the incident
2 of circumvention is discovered by the ticket
3 issuer, and in no case later than 30 days
4 after an incident of circumvention is dis-
5 covered by the ticket issuer.

6 “(ii) AUTOMATED SUBMISSION.—The
7 Commission may establish a reporting
8 mechanism to provide for the automatic
9 submission of reports required under this
10 subsection.

11 “(iii) COORDINATION WITH STATE AT-
12 TORNEYS GENERAL.—The Commission
13 shall—

14 “(I) share reports received from
15 ticket issuers under subparagraph (A)
16 with State attorneys general as appro-
17 priate; and

18 “(II) share consumer complaints
19 submitted through the website estab-
20 lished under subparagraph (B) with
21 State attorneys general as appro-
22 priate.

23 “(4) DUTY TO ADDRESS CAUSES OF CIR-
24 CUMVENTION.—A ticket issuer that owns or operates
25 an Internet website or online service that facilitates

1 or executes the sale of event tickets must take rea-
2 sonable steps to improve its access control systems,
3 security measures, and other technological controls
4 or measures to address any incidents of circumven-
5 tion of which the ticket issuer has actual knowledge.

6 “(5) FTC GUIDANCE.—Not later than 1 year
7 after the date of enactment of the Mitigating Auto-
8 mated Internet Networks for Event Ticketing Act,
9 the Commission shall publish guidance for ticket
10 issuers on compliance with the requirements of this
11 subsection.”;

12 (4) in subsection (c), as redesignated by para-
13 graph (1) of this subsection—

14 (A) by striking “subsection (a)” each place
15 it appears and inserting “subsection (a) or (b)”;

16 (B) in paragraph (2)—

17 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
18 “The Commission” and inserting “Except
19 as provided in paragraph (3), the Commis-
20 sion”; and

21 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
22 “Any person” and inserting “Subject to
23 paragraph (3), any person”; and

24 (C) by adding at the end the following new
25 paragraphs:

1 “(3) CIVIL ACTION.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Commission has
3 reason to believe that any person has committed
4 a violation of subsection (a) or (b), the Commis-
5 sion may bring a civil action in an appropriate
6 district court of the United States to—

7 “(i) recover a civil penalty under
8 paragraph (4); and

9 “(ii) seek other appropriate relief, in-
10 cluding injunctive relief and other equi-
11 table relief.

12 “(B) LITIGATION AUTHORITY.—Except as
13 otherwise provided in section 16(a)(3) of the
14 Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C.
15 56(a)(3)), the Commission shall have exclusive
16 authority to commence or defend, and supervise
17 the litigation of, any civil action authorized
18 under this paragraph and any appeal of such
19 action in its own name by any of its attorneys
20 designated by it for such purpose, unless the
21 Commission authorizes the Attorney General to
22 do so. The Commission shall inform the Attor-
23 ney General of the exercise of such authority
24 and such exercise shall not preclude the Attor-
25 ney General from intervening on behalf of the

1 United States in such action and any appeal of
2 such action as may be otherwise provided by
3 law.

4 “(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Any civil
5 penalty or relief sought through a civil action
6 under this paragraph shall be in addition to
7 other penalties and relief as may be prescribed
8 by law.

9 “(4) CIVIL PENALTIES.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Any person who vio-
11 lates subsection (a) or (b) shall be liable for—

12 “(i) a civil penalty of not less than
13 \$10,000 for each day during which the vio-
14 lation occurs or continues to occur; and

15 “(ii) an additional civil penalty of not
16 less than \$1,000 per violation.

17 “(B) ENHANCED CIVIL PENALTY FOR IN-
18 TENTIONAL VIOLATIONS.—In addition to the
19 civil penalties under subparagraph (A), a per-
20 son that intentionally violates subsection (a) or
21 (b) shall be liable for a civil penalty of not less
22 than \$10,000 per violation.”;

23 (5) in subsection (d), as redesignated by para-
24 graph (1) of this subsection, by striking “subsection

1 (a)” each place it appears and inserting “subsection
2 (a) or (b)”;

3 (6) by adding at the end the following new sub-
4 sections:

5 “(e) LAW ENFORCEMENT COORDINATION.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Bureau of In-
7 vestigation, the Department of Justice, and other
8 relevant State or local law enforcement officials shall
9 coordinate as appropriate with the Commission to
10 share information about known instances of
11 cyberattacks on security measures, access control
12 systems, or other technological controls or measures
13 on an Internet website or online service that are
14 used by ticket issuers to enforce posted event ticket
15 purchasing limits or to maintain the integrity of
16 posted online ticket purchasing order rules. Such co-
17 ordination may include providing information about
18 ongoing investigations but may exclude classified in-
19 formation or information that could compromise a
20 law enforcement or national security effort, as ap-
21 propriate.

22 “(2) CYBERATTACK DEFINED.—In this para-
23 graph, the term ‘cyberattack’ means an attack, via
24 cyberspace, targeting an enterprise’s use of cyber-
25 space for the purpose of—

1 “(A) disrupting, disabling, destroying, or
2 maliciously controlling a computing environ-
3 ment or computing infrastructure; or

4 “(B) destroying the integrity of data or
5 stealing controlled information.

6 “(f) CONGRESSIONAL REPORT.—Not later than 1
7 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the
8 Commission shall report to Committee on Commerce,
9 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-
10 mittee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Rep-
11 resentatives on the status of enforcement actions taken
12 pursuant to this Act, as well as any identified limitations
13 to the Commission’s ability to pursue incidents of cir-
14 cumvention described in subsection (a)(1)(A).”.

15 (b) ADDITIONAL DEFINITION.—Section 3 of the Bet-
16 ter Online Ticket Sales Act of 2016 (15 U.S.C. 45c note)
17 is amended by adding at the end the following new para-
18 graph:

19 “(4) CIRCUMVENTION.—The term ‘circumven-
20 tion’ means the act of avoiding, bypassing, removing,
21 deactivating, or otherwise impairing an access con-
22 trol system, security measure, safeguard, or other
23 technological control or measure described in section
24 2(b)(1).”.