

SB 2479

Report Title:

Unfair and Deceptive Practices; Public Events; Promoter
Information

Description:

Requires promotional materials and tickets for public events to
include the name and contact information of the promoter of the
event.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is
not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*





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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-FIFTH STATE LEGISLATURE
Regular Session 2010

Tuesday, February 2, 2010
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2479 -- RELATING TO UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE PRACTICES.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments on Senate Bill No. 2479, Relating to Unfair and Deceptive Practices. My name is Stephen Levins, and I am the Executive Director of the Department's Office of Consumer Protection ("OCP").

House Bill No. 2479 would require promotional materials and tickets for public events to include the name and contact information of the promoter of the event. The Department is unclear why this measure is necessary since it is not aware of any problems stemming from the fact that current law does not require the disclosure of a

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promoter's name and contact information on tickets or promotional material. This measure may also have unintended consequences. For example, as drafted, a community group putting on a show could be saddled with fines of up to \$10,000 for omitting their name as promoter. Consequently, unless there is a compelling reason for imposing such a disclosure requirement the Department does not believe that it is appropriate to impose one.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide these comments on Senate Bill No. 2479.



My wife I and purchased tickets to the event at Pipeline Cafe on Halloween, 2009. Many of the events and entertainers on the bill never materialized. Mc Lyte did not play, there was no costume contest with a \$300 prize (as advertised), and Public Enemy didn't take the stage until 2am. Many people had left in disgust by then. My wife and I sat in a booth watching people try to find out where to get their money back only to be told to leave the club by the bouncers. I contacted Greg Azus, owner of Pipeline Cafe and he said that it was the promoter's fault (Tracy Willis Walker, aka Big Cas email: bigcas4u@hotmail.com), not Pipeline Cafe's fault. Mr. Azus says the space was rented out for the evening by a promoter from Chicago. I contacted Mr. Walker and was told that it was Pipeline's fault and that Mr. Walker would "make it up to me somehow". I have not heard from Mr. Walker since then. I contacted the ticketing agency groovetickets.com and was told they would not issue a refund but that Pipeline would add people to a guest list for a future event. My wife and I spent over \$300 on tickets, food, and drink at this event and feel taken advantage of.

I'd like to point out that nowhere on the handbill, the advertisements, etc for this show listed the name of the promoter, or production company. I believe that in the future if an outside promoter has rented a nightclub, their name and contact info must be printed on any marketing material. I feel like this out of town promoter came in and stole our money. Consumers should have a right to know who is responsible for these events, both when making a decision about purchasing tickets and attending, and also for in case a situation happens where a ticket holder is due a refund.