



342 North Main Street, Suite 202, West Hartford, Connecticut 06117  
Phone: (860) 236-0900 • Fax: (860) 236-0910  
www.theccic.org

**Written Testimony for the  
General Law Committee  
From  
Judith B. Greiman  
Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges  
March 6, 2008**

**HB 5771: AAC TICKET SCALPING**

On behalf of the member institutions of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges (CCIC), *I am submitting testimony regarding HB 5771, AAC Ticket Scalping. We are concerned with what we see as unclear or unintended consequences of this legislation.*

Our concerns are with the language of section two, which would require that, for any covered event for which tickets are being sold, at least 75% of all tickets must be sold to the general public. We feel that redrafting this section by taking into account the issues noted below would make for a stronger bill that remains true to the original intent of the legislation.

Concerns:

- Would sales to season ticket holders or concert series subscribers be considered "sale[s] to the general public"? We assume that these would qualify as sales to the general public, since anyone would be eligible to obtain season tickets, but this might need to be clarified particularly since some institutions have long waiting lists for season tickets.
- When a college or university hosts a conference championship, the conference typically requires distribution of tickets to participating schools often through a required purchase of tickets by the school. If the number of required tickets were to exceed 25% of all seats, it would constitute a violation of section two. We would therefore suggest that we seek an exception for events like conference championships where the conference requires distribution of tickets to participating teams.
- As currently worded, the statute requires that, if ANY tickets are sold at a covered event, then 75% of all tickets for an event must be sold to the public. Thus, this would not allow for distribution of free tickets (not subject to resale) in excess of 25% of the venue. Examples of situations where this would be an issue include: (1) where an institution invites, for example, busloads of students from local K-12 schools; (2) where the school lets its own students in for free (in exchange for athletics/activities fees); (3) where an institution makes available to students, on a "standby" basis, seats which have not sold as of concert time.

Ideally, it might make sense to include an exemption for higher education institutions for events related to core educational activities -- including sporting events, but excluding, for example, use of a university stadium by a promoter for a touring band. We would be happy to work with the proponents of this bill to redraft it to clarify its intent.

Albertus Magnus College, Connecticut College, Fairfield University, Goodwin College, Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, Mitchell College, Quinnipiac University, Rensselaer at Hartford, Sacred Heart University, Saint Joseph College, St. Vincent's College, Trinity College, University of Bridgeport, University of Hartford, University of New Haven, Wesleyan University, Yale University