

Our Ref: LH/CA151/Let.20

Your Ref: ETE-i-023

26th November 2020.

Mr. Tom Sheridan, Clerk,
Joint Committee on Enterprise, Trade and Employment,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2,
D02 XR20.

Dear Mr. Sheridan,

Thank you for your letter of 12th November 2020 inviting written submissions to the Joint Committee on Enterprise, Trade and Employment regarding the General Scheme of Sale of Tickets (Cultural Entertainment Recreational Sporting Events) Bill.

Please find attached the submissions of the Irish Rugby Football Union in this regard and in the format requested.

Yours sincerely,



PHILIP BROWNE
Chief Executive

Irish Rugby Football Union

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IRFU

SUBMISSIONS OF THE IRISH RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION (IRFU) IN RELATION TO THE GENERAL SCHEME OF THE SALE OF TICKETS CULTURAL, ENTERTAINMENT, RECREATIONAL, AND SPORTING EVENTS) BILL 2020

- While any event organiser may seek to prohibit the onward sale or transfer of tickets by including in its ticket terms and conditions of sale a provision rendering void any ticket sold or transferred in breach of any such term, the IRFU is of the view that this approach should be supported and endorsed by the inclusion in the Act of a specific provision enabling an event organiser to extinguish all rights conferred by a ticket offered for sale by a secondary ticket seller in breach of its terms and conditions;
- While fully supportive of the provision included at Head 10, subhead 3(b), the IRFU believes that this requires to go further and should identify the specific seats by including seat block, row and specific numbers thus reading “.....the location of the particular seat, *to include specific block, row and seat numbers where available*, or standing area in the designated venue to which the ticket or ticket package entitles the ticket holder to gain admission”. Such inclusion will allow event organisers through their own internal system to identify to whom the ticket was originally allocated and more effectively assist in curtailing the onward sale of tickets;
- The IRFU seeks clarification as to the “policing” of the Act and how, in practice, breaches will be investigated and pursued effectively. In particular:
 - Which authority/authorities will have responsibility for enforcing its provisions and pursuing offenders?
 - How will they go about doing so?
 - What onus, if any, is imposed on an event organiser, primary ticket seller or venue operator to report, or assist in the pursuit of, offenders?
 - What expectations are there on it to do so?
 - Is there an expectation that they should pursue private prosecutions of offenders?