

# Senate takes aim at 'bots' that snap up concert seats

November 30 2016, by Mary Clare Jalonick

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The Senate is cracking down on computer software used by ticket brokers to snap up tickets to concerts and shows.

Senators passed legislation by voice vote Wednesday that would make using the [software](#) an "unfair and deceptive practice" under the Federal Trade Commission Act and allow the FTC to pursue those cases. The House passed similar legislation in September, but the bills are not identical so the Senate legislation now moves to the House.

The so-called "bots" rapidly purchase as many [tickets](#) as possible for resale at significant markups. They are one of the reasons why tickets to a Bruce Springsteen concert or "Hamilton" performance can sell out in just a few minutes.

Kansas Sen. Jerry Moran sponsored the bill. He says it takes aim at artificially inflated prices.

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Citation: Senate takes aim at 'bots' that snap up concert seats (2016, November 30) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2016-11-senate-aim-bots-snap-concert.html>

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