



ENTERTAINMENT, INC.

**STATEMENT OF
FELD ENTERTAINMENT, INC.**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE
MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REGARDING HOUSE BILL 5108**

JANUARY 15, 2014

Feld Entertainment, Inc. (FEI) is the world's leading producer of live family entertainment and the parent company of *Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey*[®], *Disney On Ice*, *Disney Live!*, and *Feld Motor Sports*[®] events including *Monster Jam*[®], *Monster Energy*[®] Supercross, *Nuclear Cowboyz*, and *AMSOIL Arenacross*. With more than 5,000 performances annually and tours that span more than 60 countries on six continents, the company's shows are seen by more than 30 million people. We submit these comments in opposition to the above-referenced legislation.

Each year, multiple FEI productions appear in stadiums, arenas and theaters across the state of Michigan. In 2013, FEI properties performed for roughly 350,000 Michiganders in six different cities, including Auburn Hills, Detroit, East Lansing, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, and Saginaw. We have provided a source of entertainment for Michigan families for over forty years, and have done so while producing a significant local economic impact, including rent to arenas and tax revenues.

Our business is bringing quality, live entertainment to consumers and a key element of that is the fair and efficient sale and distribution of tickets. As a business, we depend upon the revenues generated by ticket sales to pay salaries, purchase advertising and pay all of the other costs associated with our productions. Thus, our objective, and the objective of our venue partners, is to manage the ticketing process in a manner that maximizes both attendance and revenues and provides protections for our consumers. However, HB 5108 would limit the ability of artists, teams, venues and promoters to determine the terms under which tickets to their own events may be sold.

We value the working relationship we have with our venue partners all across the state of Michigan, and we support their right to maintain control of the ticket process. The event presenters—those who take on the financial risks to put on a show—should be able to maintain the right to have consumer protections in place. Changing Michigan's current resale regulations in this manner seems a step in the wrong direction.

Thank you for the opportunity to advise you of our concerns. We request these comment be included in the Committee's hearing record regarding this legislation.