

# As Congress Takes Steps To Rein In “Exploitative Junk Fees,” The Telecommunications, Ticketing, Hotel, Airline, And Entertainment Industries Spent Over \$1.7 Million Lobbying On The Junk Fee Prevention Act

**Summary:** In January 2022, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) launched an effort to save consumers billions of dollars a year by reducing “[exploitative junk fees](#)” in what they called a new “[fee economy](#)” that distorts the “[true price of products](#).” In the spring of 2023, Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Representative Ruben Gallego (D-AZ), and Representative Jeff Jackson (D-NC) [introduced](#) the Junk Fee Prevention Act, which would “[eliminate excessive, hidden, and unnecessary fees imposed on consumers](#)” within in the telecommunications, ticketing, hotel, airline, and entertainment industries.

The Junk Fee Prevention Act would apply to the [telecommunications industry](#), which has been called the “[worst offender when it comes to charging unexpected or hidden fees](#),” raking in an estimated “[\\$28 billion a year](#)” in company-imposed fees. It would also make hotels display the [total price](#), including resort and destination fees, which can cost [\\$50 or more per night](#), **enabling the U.S. Hotel industry to rake in \$3 billion from these fees.** As airlines tack on extra fees that used to be included in the ticket price, resulting in **airline ancillary revenue soaring by 56% to \$103 billion**, the Junk Fee Prevention Act would require airlines to seat families together [at no extra cost](#). **Entertainment companies’** utilization of junk fees—including service fees, processing fees, and additional facility fees—**has cost consumers an [additional 27% on average](#) of the ticket’s face value.**

In the **same quarter that the Junk Fee Prevention Act was introduced, several companies and trade associations across the affected industries spent over \$1.7 million while lobbying on the bill.** These companies and organizations include:

- **The U.S. Travel Association**—representing “[some of the largest and most influential corporations across lodging, hospitality, airlines](#),” and more—**spent over \$1 million while lobbying on “[proposals to limit or prohibit fees imposed on travel and transportation services, including the Junk Fee Prevention Act](#),”** among other issues.
- **American Hotel & Lodging Association**—the “[largest hotel association in the U.S.](#)”—**spent \$370,000 while lobbying on “[H.R. 2463 Junk Fee Prevention Act](#),”** among other issues.
- **Comcast Corporation**—which is a “[global media and technology company](#)” that has charged a “[starling array of fees](#)” totaling [\\$785 a year](#) per customer—**spent \$60,000 while lobbying on the “[Junk Fee Prevention Act](#),”** among other issues.
- **Competitive Carriers Association**—which represents regional and nationwide [wireless communications providers, suppliers, and vendors](#)—**spent \$160,000 while lobbying on “[S. 916 \[the\] Junk Fee Prevention Act](#),”** among other issues.
- **NCTA – The Internet & Television Association**—which represents “[the world’s entertainment leaders](#)” and the “[nation’s largest U.S. broadband providers](#)”—**spent \$80,000 while lobbying on “[S. 916, \[the\] Junk Fee Protection Act](#),”** among other issues.
- **American Multi-Cinema (AMC)**—which is the “[largest movie exhibition company](#)” in the world—charges customers “[a small convenience fee per ticket](#)” purchased on its website and mobile app and announced a new initiative to [set ticket prices](#) according to seats, all while **spending \$60,000 to lobby**

on "[H.R. 2463 Junk Fee Prevention Act](#)," among other issues.

- **National Association of Theatre Owners**—which "[is the largest exhibition organization in the world](#)" and helps "[influence federal policy-making and work with movie distributors on all areas of mutual concern](#)"—lobbied on the "[Junk Fee Prevention Act](#)," among other issues.

**In The Spring Of 2023, A Year After The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Launched Its Effort To Reduce Junk Fees, The Junk Fee Prevention Act Was Introduced In The House And Senate In Order To "Eliminate Excessive, Hidden, And Unnecessary Fees Imposed On Consumers" Within The Ticketing, Hotel, Airline, And Entertainment Industries, All Of Which Utilize "Unexpected Or Hidden Fees" To Add Billions Of Dollars To Their Revenues.**

### **January 2022: The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) Launched An Effort To Save Consumers Billions Of Dollars A Year By Reducing "Exploitative Junk Fees," Such As Overdraft Fees.**

In January 2022, The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) Launched An Initiative To "Save Households Billions Of Dollars A Year By Reducing Exploitative Junk Fees." "Today, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) launched an initiative to save households billions of dollars a year by reducing exploitative junk fees charged by banks and financial companies. Today's request is a chance for the public to share input that will help shape the agency's rulemaking and guidance agenda, as well as its enforcement priorities in the coming months and years." [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, [01/26/22](#)]

**The CFPB Described A New "'Fee Economy'" In Which Fees Distort The "True Price Of Products" And Greatly Exceed The Cost Of Services.** "Companies across the U.S. economy are increasingly charging inflated and back-end fees to households and families. This new 'fee economy' distorts our free market system by concealing the true price of products from the competitive process. For example, hotels and concert venues advertise rates, only to add 'resort fees' and 'service fees' after the fact. And fees purportedly charged to cover individual expenses, like paperwork processing, can often greatly exceed the actual cost of that service." [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, [01/26/22](#)]

**The CFPB Sought Consumers' Experiences With Being Charged For "Fees People Thought Were Covered By Its Baseline Price; Unexpected Fees; Fees That Seemed Too High; And Fees Where It Was Unclear Why They Were Charged."** "The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau on Wednesday signaled a broad crackdown on hidden and excessive fees charged by banks, mortgage lenders and other financial entities. The federal agency, created in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis, is seeking consumers' input on so-called junk fees associated with their bank, credit union, prepaid or credit card account, mortgage, loan or payment transfers. Such experiences related to a product or service include: Fees people thought were covered by its baseline price; unexpected fees; fees that seemed too high; and fees where it was unclear why they were charged, according to the agency's announcement Wednesday." [CNBC, [01/26/22](#)]

**As Part Of The Review, The CFPB Requested Information On Overdraft, Late, Nonsufficient Funds, And A Variety Of Other Service Fees.** “Besides late fees, overdraft and nonsufficient funds fees, the CFPB’s request for information listed a smorgasbord of other charges, including ATM, ACH transfer, balance-inquiry, card cancellation, cash reload, check image and inactivity fees.” [American Banker, [01/26/22](#)]

## **After Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) And Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) Introduced The Junk Fee Prevention Act—Which Would “Eliminate Excessive, Hidden, And Unnecessary Fees Imposed On Consumers” Within The Ticketing, Hotel, Airline, And Entertainment Industries—Rep. Ruben Gallego (D-AZ) And Rep. Jeff Jackson (D-NC) Introduced The Same Bill In The House.**

**March 22, 2023: Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) And Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) Introduced The Junk Fee Prevention Act, Which Would “Eliminate Excessive, Hidden, And Unnecessary Fees Imposed On Consumers” Within The Ticketing, Hotel, Airline, And Entertainment Industries.** “U.S. Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) introduced new legislation to eliminate excessive fees and bring transparency to the marketplace as hidden fees cost Americans billions of dollars annually. Today’s introduction of the *Junk Fee Prevention Act* follows calls from President Joe Biden during his State of the Union address. The legislation would eliminate excessive, hidden, and unnecessary fees imposed on consumers and require full prices of services be provided upfront ensuring transparency in the ticketing, hotel, and entertainment industries, as well as prevent airlines from imposing a fee to seat families together.” [U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, [03/22/23](#)]

**April 4, 2023: Rep. Ruben Gallego (D-AZ) And Rep. Jeff Jackson (D-NC) Introduced The Junk Fee Prevention Act.** “Rep. Ruben Gallego (D-AZ) and Rep. Jeff Jackson (D-NC) today introduced the *Junk Fee Prevention Act* to eliminate burdensome and oftentimes hidden fees imposed on consumers when purchasing tickets, hotel rooms, and other forms of entertainment. The bill seeks to increase transparency by requiring the full prices of services be provided upfront and eliminate the excessive fees that costs American billions of dollars each year.” [U.S. Representative Ruben Gallego, [04/04/23](#)]

## **The Junk Fee Prevention Act Would Apply To The Telecommunications Industry, Which Has Been Called The “Worst Offender When It Comes To Charging Unexpected Or Hidden Fees,” Raking In An Estimated “\$28 Billion A Year” In Company-Imposed Fees.**

**The Junk Fee Prevention Act Would Apply To Telecommunications Operators “Offering Voice, Broadband, Television And Wireless” Services.** “The proposed rules uniformly apply to operators offering voice, broadband, television and wireless; whether satellite is included is unclear. If enacted, the Junk Fee Prevention Act would prohibit providers from charging a fee or imposing an ‘excessive or unreasonable’ requirement on consumers for terminating a covered service early, but there is room for debate in how to define those terms.” [Fierce Telecom, [05/04/23](#)]

**If Passed, The Junk Fee Prevention Act Could Target “Termination Fees, Which Are Widely Utilized Across The Telecom Industry To Recover Up-Front Costs Incurred For Equipment, Installation And Activation.”** “Legislation aimed at regulating telecommunications operators is in the works, and companies should hasten to prepare for what’s to come. A bill introduced to the Senate in March proposes to do away with ‘junk fees,’ which are financial charges that President Biden denounced in his State of the Union address. These could include early termination fees, which are widely utilized across the telecom industry to recover up-front costs incurred for equipment, installation and activation.” [Fierce Telecom, [05/04/23](#)]

**A 2019 Consumer Reports Analysis Found That Telecommunications Providers “Are The Worst Offender When It Comes To Charging Unexpected Or Hidden Fees,” With The Average Cable Bill**

**Containing “More Than A Dozen Line-Item Charges.”** “For years, one major sticking point between consumer advocates and the industry has been the way billing is structured and delivered. In 2019, Consumer Reports published a Cable Bill Report. The report included a survey that found telecommunications providers (in which they included cable companies) ‘are the worst offender when it comes to charging unexpected or hidden fees.’ The report goes on to say the average cable bill ‘contains more than a dozen line-item charges’ and many of those represent ‘nothing more than a cost of doing business.’ [Fierce Telecom, [05/04/23](#)]

**The Telecommunications Industry Has Been “Notorious For Using Hidden Fees To Raise Prices And Disguise The True Cost Of Service,” Raking In An Estimated “\$28 Billion A Year From Charging Company-Imposed Fees.”** “The cable industry has been notorious for using hidden fees to raise prices and disguise the true cost of service, making an estimated \$28 billion a year from charging company-imposed fees. Some cable providers impose fees for regional sports, broadcast television, network access and maintenance, and switching providers, which can add up to more than \$40 per month in hidden fees.” [Time, [02/08/23](#)]

### **The Junk Fee Prevention Act Would Require Hotels To Display The Total Price, Including Resort And Destination Fees, Which Can Cost \$50 Or More Per Night And Has Enabled The U.S. Hotel Industry To Rake In \$3 Billion From These Fees.**

**Under The Junk Fee Prevention Act, Drip Pricing—When A Final Price Is “Substantially Higher Than The Advertised Amount” Due To Hidden Fees—Would Be Eliminated By Making Hotels Display “The Total Price Of The Good Or Service Provided By The Covered Entity, Including Any Mandatory Fees A Consumer Would Incur During The Transaction.”** “Hotels would have to ‘clearly and conspicuously display, in each advertisement and when a price is first shown to a consumer, the total price of the good or service provided by the covered entity, including any mandatory fees a consumer would incur during the transaction.’ This specific mandate would eliminate drip pricing -- the practice of obscuring extra fees until the conclusion of the booking process. Drip pricing often results in a final price that is substantially higher than the advertised amount.” [Travel Weekly, [03/29/23](#)]

**These Surprise Resort And Destination Fees Can Cost \$50 Or More Per Night And Limit Consumers’ Ability To Comparison Shop.** “Ban surprise resort and destination fees. When families set their budget for a vacation, they expect that the hotel price they see is the price they will pay. But many travelers encounter surprise ‘resort fees’ or ‘destination fees’ when they check out or at the end of a lengthy online reservation process. These fees harm consumers by preventing them from seeing the true price when they pick out a hotel and by limiting their ability to comparison shop. Over the past decade, a growing number of hotels have imposed these fees on consumers, which can be \$50 or more per night. More than one-third of hotel guests report having paid such fees.” [The White House, [02/01/23](#)]

**In 2018, U.S. Hotels Collected \$3 Billion From Ancillary Junk Fees, Accounting For About 3% Of Revenue.** “In 2018, U.S. hotels collected \$3 billion in these fees. They account for about 3% of revenue among hotels that charge them. These fees also used to be included in the price of a room.” [USA Today, [02/22/23](#)]

### **The Junk Fee Prevention Act Would Require Airlines To Seat Families Together At No Extra Cost After Airlines Tacked On Extra Fees That Used To Be Included In The Ticket Price, Resulting In Airline Ancillary Fee Revenue Soaring By 56% To \$103 Billion From 2021 To 2022.**

**The Junk Fee Prevention Act Would Require Airlines To Seat Children With An Accompanying Adult At No Extra Cost.** “Additionally, the law would require airlines to seat children with an accompanying adult at no extra cost and also allows the U.S. Department of Transportation to impose penalties when this rule is violated. In particular, the proposed legislation takes aim at excessive online ticket fees, airline family seating fees, exorbitant early termination fees, and surprise resort or destination fees.” [Travel Pulse, [03/29/23](#)]

**From 2021 To 2022, Annual Revenue From Airline Ancillary Fees Soared By 56% To \$103 Billion, As Airlines Tacked On Extra Fees To Cover Seat Assignments And Carry-On Bags, Which Used To Be Included In The Ticket Price.** “Junk fees are the lifeblood of the travel industry. Annual revenue from airline ancillary fees soared by 56% last year to \$103 billion worldwide compared to 2021. (Many ancillary fees are considered junk fees.) Airlines tack these extras onto your ticket purchase to cover things like a seat assignment or a carry-on bag. These are items that used to be included in your ticket price.” [USA Today, [02/22/23](#)]

**Entertainment Companies’ Utilization Of Junk Fees—including Service Fees, Processing Fees, And Additional Facility Fees—Has Cost Consumers An Additional 27% Of The Ticket’s Face Value And Are Only Revealed Near The End Of The Ticketing Process.**

**In February 2023, President Biden “Called For Limits To Be Placed On The Fees That Can Be Charged For Tickets To Live Entertainment.”** “President Biden on Wednesday called for limits to be placed on the fees that can be charged for tickets to live entertainment, eight days after an unusually bipartisan Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in which lawmakers assailed Ticketmaster and raised concerns about the broader ticketing industry.” [The New York Times, [02/01/23](#)]

**April 2018: The United States Government Accountability Office Found That From A Sample Of 31 Events Across Five Primarily Ticket Sellers’ Websites, Combined Fees—including Service Fees, Processing Fees And Additional Facility Fees—Averaged 27% Of The Ticket’s Face Value.**

We conducted our own review of ticketing fees for a nongeneralizable sample of a total of 31 concert, theater, and sporting events across five primary ticket sellers’ websites:<sup>28</sup>

- In total, the combined fees averaged 27 percent of the ticket’s face value, and we observed values ranging from 13 percent to 58 percent.<sup>29</sup>
- Service fees were, on average, 22 percent of the ticket’s face value, and we observed values ranging from 8 percent to 37 percent.
- Fourteen of the events we reviewed had an additional order processing fee, ranging from \$1.00 to \$8.20.
- Five of the events we reviewed had an additional facility fee, ranging from \$2.00 to \$5.10.

[United States Government Accountability Office, [April 2018](#)]

**The 2018 Study Found That These Fees Were Only Revealed Near The End Of The Ticketing Process.** “Fees were revealed only near the end. All 17 of the white-label sites we reviewed disclosed their fees late in the purchase process. Ticketing fees and total prices were provided only after the consumer had entered either an e-mail address or credit card information.” [United States Government Accountability Office, [April 2018](#)]

**In Q1 2023, The U.S. Travel Association And The American Hotel & Lodging Association Lobbied On “Proposals To Limit Or Prohibit Fees Imposed On Travel And Transportation Services, Including The Junk Fee Prevention Act.”**



**In Q1 2023, The U.S. Travel Association—Representing “Some Of The Largest And Most Influential Corporations Across Lodging, Hospitality, Airlines, Airports, Cruise Lines, Car Rental Companies, Rail, Retail, Gaming, Recreation And Entertainment”—Spent Over \$1 Million While Lobbying On “Proposals To Limit Or Prohibit Fees Imposed On Travel And Transportation Services, Including The Junk Fee Prevention Act.”**

**The U.S. Travel Association Represents All Components Of The U.S. Travel Industry And Aims “To Increase Travel To And Within The United States.”** “U.S. Travel Association is the national, non-profit organization representing all components of the U.S. travel industry—a key contributor to America’s economic success. Our mission is to increase travel to and within the United States, and in doing so, fuel our nation’s economy and future growth.” [U.S. Travel Association, accessed [05/24/23](#)]

**U.S. Travel Association’s Members Include “Some Of The Largest And Most Influential Corporations Across Lodging, Hospitality, Airlines, Airports, Cruise Lines, Car Rental Companies, Rail, Retail, Gaming, Recreation And Entertainment.”** “Our membership includes some of the largest and most influential corporations across lodging, hospitality, airlines, airports, cruise lines, car rental companies, rail, retail, gaming, recreation and entertainment, in addition to destination marketing organizations and state tourism offices across the country.” [U.S. Travel Association, accessed [05/24/23](#)]

**In Q1 2023, The U.S. Travel Association Spent Over \$1 Million While Lobbying On “Proposals To Limit Or Prohibit Fees Imposed On Travel And Transportation Services, Including The Junk Fee Prevention Act.”**

**LOBBYING ACTIVITY.** Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which the registrant engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each code, provide information as requested. Add additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code TOU

16. Specific lobbying issues

Proposals to enhance U.S. National Parks and park security, including upgrading technology capabilities, improving public lands staffing and housing, investing in capital improvement projects, mechanisms that facilitate greater public-private engagement, and the expansion of NPS reservation system windows to accommodate the needs of inbound international travelers and tour operators; FY24 appropriations related to funding to implement the Visit America Act, as enacted through FY23 Omnibus Appropriations (P.L. 117-328); vaccine requirements for inbound international travelers; and [Proposals to limit or prohibit fees imposed on travel and transportation services, including the Junk Fee Prevention Act \(S. 916\)](#).

17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies  Check if None

U.S. SENATE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Commerce - Dept of (DOC), Homeland Security - Dept of (DHS), State - Dept of (DOS), Transportation - Dept of (DOT), Interior - Dept of (DOI), White House Office, Natl Park Service (NPS)

[U.S. Travel Association via LD-2, [04/20/23](#)]

**In Q1 2023, The American Hotel & Lodging Association—The “Largest Hotel Association In The U.S. Representing All Segments Of The Industry Nationwide” And Has Defended Resort Fees By Claiming They “Provide Hotel Guests With The Best Value”—Spent \$370,000 While Lobbying On “H.R. 2463 Junk Fee Prevention Act.”**

**The American Hotel & Lodging Association Is The “Largest Hotel Association In The U.S. Representing All Segments Of The Industry Nationwide,” Including “Major Chains, Independent Hotels, Management Companies, REITs, Bed And Breakfasts, Industry Partners, And More.”** “AHLA is the largest hotel association in the U.S. representing ALL segments of the industry nationwide. AHLA is the singular voice representing every segment of the hotel industry including major chains, independent hotels, management

companies, REITs, bed and breakfasts, industry partners, and more.” [American Hotel and Lodging Association, accessed [05/25/23](#)]

**The American Hotel & Lodging Association Claims That The Hotel Industry “Provides Guests Full Disclosure For Resort And Amenities Fees Charged Up Front.”** “Making sure guests have all the necessary information prior to booking their reservations is paramount. The hotel industry provides guests full disclosure for resort and amenities fees charged up front.” [American Hotel and Lodging Association, accessed [06/06/23](#)]

**The American Hotel And Lodging Association Defended Resort Fees, Saying “They Were Created To Provide Hotel Guests With The Best Value By Grouping Fees For Amenities Into One Cost.”** “The American Hotel and Lodging Association, a hotel industry lobbying group, defends resort fees by saying they were created to provide hotel guests with the best value by grouping fees for amenities into one cost, and that hotels are transparent about the fees they disclose.” [USA Today, [05/24/23](#)]

**In Q1 2023, The American Hotel & Lodging Association Spent \$370,000 While Lobbying On “H.R. 2463 Junk Fee Prevention Act” And Other Policy Items.**

**LOBBYING ACTIVITY.** Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which the registrant engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each code, provide information as requested. Add additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code TEC

16. Specific lobbying issues

Related to online travel company taxation; issues related to the taxation of hotel room reservations made over the internet; issues related to online consumer deception; H.R.2463 Junk Fee Prevention Act; issues related to short-term rentals; issues related to innovation and competition in the hotel industry; issues related to market consolidation and competition; issues related to display of mandatory fees, issues related to hotel resort fees.

17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies  Check if None

U.S. SENATE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Commerce - Dept of (DOC), Justice - Dept of (DOJ)

[American Hotel and Lodging Association via LD-2, [04/20/23](#)]

**In Q1 2023, Comcast Corporation, The Competitive Carriers Association, And NCTA – The Internet & Television Association, All Lobbied On The “Junk Fee Prevention Act.”**

**In Q1 2023, Comcast Corporation—A “Global Media And Technology Company” That Has Charged A “Startling Array Of Fees” That Customers Cannot Opt Out Of, Totaling \$785 A Year—Spent \$60,000 While Lobbying On The “Junk Fee Prevention Act.”**

**Comcast Is A “Global Media And Technology Company” Comprised Of Three Primary Businesses, Comcast Cable, NBCUniversal, And Sky, Which Provides Internet, Phone, Cable, And Entertainment Services In The United States And Europe.** “We’re a global media and technology company with three primary businesses: Comcast Cable, NBCUniversal, and Sky. Comcast Cable is one of the United States’ largest video, high-speed internet, and phone providers to residential customers under the Xfinity brand, and also provides these services to businesses. It also provides wireless and security and automation services to residential customers under the Xfinity brand.” [LinkedIn, accessed [05/25/23](#)]

**Comcast Has Charged A “Startling Array Of Fees” That Customers Cannot Opt Out Of, Including A Broadcast-TV Fee, Which Has Risen “21% To \$23.20 From \$19.15; And Its Regional-Sports Fee, Which Jump[ed] 15% To \$17.25 From \$15” Within The Past Year, Despite These Services Being Part Of The**

**Cable Bundle.** “Comcast charges a startling array of fees in addition to its basic monthly price. These fees are mandatory, and customers can't opt out of them. The most egregious Comcast fees are the broadcast-TV fee, which is rising 21% to \$23.20 from \$19.15; and its regional-sports fee, which will jump 15% to \$17.25 from \$15, according to customer bills. These fees pay for channels that are part of your cable bundle. Broadcast TV is the ABC, NBC, CBS, and Fox networks while the regional-sports fee covers access to regional-sports networks.” [The Street, [01/19/23](#)]

- **These Fees “All Add Up Quickly,” With The Annual Cost Of These Fees Totaling \$785.** “While none of these fees is a big number, they all add up quickly, and when looked at yearly, they're staggering: Broadcast fee: \$278.40 Regional-sports fee: \$207 Cable box/remote (per TV): \$120 Modem rental: \$180 Total annual fees: \$785.” [The Street, [01/19/23](#)]

### **In Q1 2023, Comcast Paid NVG LLC \$60,000 To Lobby On The “Junk Fee Prevention Act,” Among Other Issues.**

**LOBBYING ACTIVITY.** Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which the registrant engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each code, provide information as requested. Add additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code CSP

16. Specific lobbying issues

Issues related two federal online privacy legislation.  
[Junk Fee Prevention Act.](#)  
Issues relate to consumer data protection.

17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies  Check if None

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S. SENATE

[Comcast Corporation via LD-2, [4/17/23](#)]

### **In Q1 2023, The Competitive Carriers Association, Which Represents Regional And Nationwide Wireless Communications Providers, Suppliers, And Vendors, Lobbied On “S. 916, Junk Fee Prevention Act.”**

**The Competitive Carriers Association (CAA) Represents Regional And Nationwide Wireless Communications Providers, Suppliers, And Vendors.** “CCA members range from small, rural carriers serving fewer than 5,000 customers to regional and nationwide providers serving millions of customers, as well as vendors and suppliers that provide products and services throughout the wireless communications ecosystem.” [Competitive Carriers Association, accessed [05/25/23](#)]

- **CAA’s Board Of Directors Includes Executives From T-Mobile And US Cellular, Among Others.** [Competitive Carriers Association, accessed [05/25/23](#)]

### **In Q1 2023, The Competitive Carriers Association Spent \$160,000 While Lobbying On “S. 916, Junk Fee Prevention Act.”**



S. 130, Rural Internet Improvement Act - Issues relating to rural broadband and infrastructure deployment  
S. 275, Rural Broadband Protection Act - Issues relating to Universal Service Fund  
S. 341/H.R. 889, Broadband Grant Tax Treatment Act - Issues related to infrastructure deployment  
S. 599/H.R. 1412, Digital Equity Foundation Act - Issues relating to FCC and NTIA authority and processes  
S. 650/H.R. 1108, A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to extend the authority of the FCC to grant a license or construction permit through a system of competitive bidding - Issues relating to FCC Authority and Process and Spectrum Auctions  
S. 686, RESTRICT Act - Issues relating cybersecurity  
S. 690, NET Act - Issues relating to supply chain and cybersecurity  
S. 719, Precision Agriculture Loan Act - Issues relating to Precision Agriculture  
S. 734, Promoting Precision Agriculture Act - Issues relating to Precision Agriculture  
S. 744, Data Care Act - Issues relating to privacy and consumer concerns  
S. 828/H.R. 1370, Communications Security Act - Issues relating to FCC Authority and Process, infrastructure and cybersecurity  
S. 856, FAIR Contributions Act - Issues relating to the Universal Service Fund  
S. 916, Junk Fee Prevention Act - Issues relating to consumer concerns  
S. 975/H.R. 1812, Reforming Broadband Connectivity Act - Issues relating to Universal Service Fund  
S. 999, Government Spectrum Valuation Act - Issues relating to Spectrum, including Federal Spectrum, Licensed and Unlicensed Spectrum  
S. 998, A bill to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to audit Federal spectrum - Issues relating to Spectrum, including Federal Spectrum, Licensed and Unlicensed Spectrum  
S. 1047/H.R. 2380, Cellphone Jamming Reform Act - Issues relating to FCC authority and process  
S. 1162/ H.R. 1677, SMART Spectrum Act - Issues relating to NTIA process  
H.R. 498, 9-8-8 Lifeline Cybersecurity Responsibility Act - Issues relating to cybersecurity and public safety  
[Competitive Carriers Association via LD-2, [04/20/23](#)]

## **In Q1 2023, NCTA – The Internet & Television Association, Representing “The World’s Entertainment Leaders” And The “Nation’s Largest U.S. Broadband Providers,” Spent \$80,000 While Lobbying On “S. 916, Junk Fee Protection Act,” Among Other Issues.**

**NCTA – The Internet & Television Association (NCTA) Represents The Largest Broadband Providers And TV Networks, “Reaching Over 90% Of All U.S. Homes.”** “We are the nation’s largest broadband provider with fiber-rich networks reaching over 90% of all U.S. homes, offering 1 gig speeds to millions in urban and rural communities. NCTA members are also TV networks with a rich history of creating award-winning programming.” [The Internet And Television Association, accessed [05/25/23](#)]

**NCTA’s Members Include “The World’s Entertainment Leaders,” Including AMC Networks, Disney, And NBCUniversal, The “Nation’s Largest U.S. Broadband Providers,” Including Comcast, Charter Communications, And Cox Communications, And The “Leading Technology Companies,” Such As IBM, CommScope, And Casa Systems.**

## **Our Members**

NCTA’s member companies have a groundbreaking history and equally impressive vision for the future, emboldened by a spirit of innovation, creativity and passion to be the best.

**CABLE TV PROGRAMMERS.** We represent the world’s entertainment leaders, including A+E Networks, AMC Networks, Disney, NBCUniversal, Paramount, Univision, Warner Bros. Discovery, Fox and more.

**CABLE OPERATORS.** The nation’s largest U.S. broadband providers, including Comcast, Charter Communications, Cox Communications, GCI, Mediacom, Midco and others are our members.

**TECH LEADERS & AFFILIATES.** We comprise leading technology companies and organizations supporting the internet & television industry, such as IBM, CommScope, Inc., Casa Systems, Sand Cherry Associates, Horowitz Research, Coravant, and more.

[The Internet And Television Association, accessed [05/25/23](#)]

**In Q1 2023, NCTA Paid Jenner & Block LLP \$80,000 To Lobby On “S. 916, Junk Fee Protection Act,” Among Other Issues.**

**LOBBYING ACTIVITY.** Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which the registrant engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each code, provide information as requested. Add additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code TEC

16. Specific lobbying issues

The impact of the following pending legislation on the operation and functioning of businesses owned by members of NCTA: Pub. L. 117-2, American Rescue Plan Act; Pub. L. 117-58, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act; H.R. 742, TELL Act; H.R. 750, CAUTION Act of 2023; H.R. 784, Internet Application I.D. Act; [S. 916, Junk Fee Protection Act](#); H.R. 1108 (extension of FCC spectrum auction authority); S. XXX, Targeting Child Predators Act; S. XXXX, American Innovation and Choice Online Act; S. XXXX, EARN IT Act; S. XXXX, Digital Platform Commission Act.

17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies  Check if None

U.S. SENATE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

[NCTA - The Internet And Television Association via LD-2, [04/13/23](#)]

**In Q1 2023, American Multi-Cinema (AMC), The “Largest Movie Exhibition Company” In The World, And The National Association Of Theatre Owners (NATO), “The Largest Exhibition Trade Organization In The World,” Both Lobbied On The “Junk Fee Prevention Act.”**

**American Multi-Cinema (AMC), The “Largest Movie Exhibition Company” In The World, Charges “A Small Convenience Fee Per Ticket” Purchased On Its Website And Mobile App And Announced A New Initiative To Set Ticket Prices According To Seat Location, All While Spending \$60,000 Lobbying On “H.R. 2463 Junk Fee Prevention Act,” Among Other Issues.**

**AMC Is The “Largest Movie Exhibition Company In The United States” And Across The World, With Around “940 Theatres And 10,500 Screens.”** “AMC is the largest movie exhibition company in the United States, the largest in Europe and the largest throughout the world with approximately 940 theatres and 10,500 screens across the globe. AMC has propelled innovation in the exhibition industry by: deploying its Signature power-recliner seats; delivering enhanced food and beverage choices; generating greater guest engagement through its loyalty and subscription programs, web site and mobile apps; offering premium large format experiences and playing a wide variety of content including the latest Hollywood releases and independent programming.” [AMC Entertainment, [02/28/23](#)]

**AMC Charges “A Small Convenience Fee Per Ticket” Purchased On Its Website And Mobile App, Claiming The Fee Helps Ensure Consumers Can “Purchase Tickets Conveniently Online” And To “Select Your Ideal Seats Where Applicable.”** “We charge a small convenience fee per ticket purchased on our website and mobile app. This fee helps to ensure you can purchase tickets conveniently online before they sell out, to select your ideal seats where applicable, to order Food & Beverage in advance, and to skip lines at the theatre. The fee is displayed on the Order Summary during the online purchase process.” [AMC, accessed [05/25/23](#)]

**February 6, 2023: AMC Theatres Announced A New Initiative Called Sightline, Where Ticket Prices Will Be Set “According To Where Patrons Choose To Sit In The Auditorium.”** “AMC Theatres will begin setting their ticket prices according to where patrons choose to sit in the auditorium, under its Sightline initiative, the company announced Monday. Seats on the front row are considered Value Sightline seats and cost less, while

seats in the middle are called Preferred Sightline and will cost more. The remaining parts of the theater are Standard Sightline seats and will cost the price of a standard admission ticket.” [NPR, [02/07/23](#)]

**AMC’s Executive Vice President Compared The New Pricing Initiative To The Approach Of “Many Other Entertainment Venues.”** “Sightline at AMC more closely aligns AMC’s seat pricing approach to that of many other entertainment venues, offering experienced-based pricing and another way for moviegoers to find value at the movies,’ Executive Vice President Eliot Hamlich said.” [NPR, [02/07/23](#)]

**In Q1 2023, AMC Spent \$60,000 While Lobbying On “H.R. 2463 Junk Fee Prevention Act,” Among Other Issues.**

**LOBBYING ACTIVITY.** Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which the registrant engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each code, provide information as requested. Add additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code TEC

16. Specific lobbying issues

Related to online travel company taxation; issues related to the taxation of hotel room reservations made over the internet; issues related to online consumer deception; [H.R.2463 Junk Fee Prevention Act](#); issues related to short-term rentals; issues related to innovation and competition in the hotel industry; issues related to market consolidation and competition; issues related to display of mandatory fees, issues related to hotel resort fees.

17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies  Check if None

U.S. SENATE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Commerce - Dept of (DOC), Justice - Dept of (DOJ)

[American Multi-Cinema, Inc. via LD-2, [04/18/23](#)]

**The National Association Of Theatre Owners (NATO), “The Largest Exhibition Trade Organization In The World” Helping “Influence Federal Policy-Making,” Spent Less Than \$5,000 Lobbying On The “Junk Fee Prevention Act.”**

**The National Association Of Theatre Owners (NATO) “Is The Largest Exhibition Trade Organization In The World, Representing Over 35,000 Movie Screens In All 50 States, And Additional Cinemas In 101 Countries Worldwide.”** “The National Association of Theatre Owners is the largest exhibition trade organization in the world, representing over 35,000 movie screens in all 50 states, and additional cinemas in 101 countries worldwide.” [National Association of Theatre Owners, accessed [05/25/23](#)]

**NATO Helps “Influence Federal Policy-Making And Work With Movie Distributors On All Areas Of Mutual Concern, From New Technologies To Legislation, Marketing, And First Amendment Issues.”**

“Headquartered in Washington, D.C., with a second office in Los Angeles, California, NATO represents its members in the heart of the nation’s capital as well as the center of the entertainment industry. From these vantage points, NATO helps exhibition influence federal policy-making and work with movie distributors on all areas of mutual concern, from new technologies to legislation, marketing, and First Amendment issues.” [National Association of Theatre Owners, accessed [05/25/23](#)]

**In Q1 2023, The National Association Of Theatre Owners Spent Less Than \$5,000 Lobbying On The “Junk Fee Prevention Act,” Among Other Issues.**

**LOBBYING ACTIVITY.** Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which the registrant engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each code, provide information as requested. Add additional page(s) as needed.

15. General issue area code ART

16. Specific lobbying issues

Junk Fee Prevention Act

17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies  Check if None

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S. SENATE

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[National Association of Theatre Owners, [04/20/23](#)]