

October 10, 2025

Andrew Ferguson
Chairman
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20580

RE: Expanding the Federal Trade Commission's Rule on Unfair and Deceptive Fees to Additional Online Retailers

Dear Chairman Ferguson,

I write today in support of the Federal Trade Commission's Rule on Unfair and Deceptive Fees to protect American consumers from being charged hidden fees in the ticketing and short-term lodging industries.

The cost of living is skyrocketing. According to the August 2025 Consumer Price Index, prices on all items continue to rise with a 0.4% increase in August and a 2.9% increase over the last year. With everyday essentials now straining budgets, it is leaving little room to afford experiences that are the cornerstone of American family life. That's why the Federal Trade Commission's Rule on Unfair and Deceptive Fees is a critical step in making life affordable for Americans.

While the FTC's Rule makes family outings and vacations more transparent and affordable, it is necessary to address other online retailers that are price gouging American consumers with hidden fees. Establishing rulemaking to crack down on junk fees charged by online retailers who are arbitrarily inflating costs on families will help bring down the rising price of goods. The FTC must do everything in its power to make sure American consumers are not being taken advantage of in online marketplaces.

I support the FTC's work on hidden and deceptive fees for short-term lodging and live events but I urge the FTC to expand this rulemaking to other online retailers. I look forward to working together to curb online hidden fees that are harming American families. Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Harder". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end of the word "Harder".

Josh Harder
Member of Congress