

From: [Richard Pope](#)
To: [NASAA Comments](#); [Theresa Leets](#); bill.beatty@dfi.wa.gov; [Erin Houston](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]NASAA Model Franchise Broker Act Comments
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:15:58 PM

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

After 40 years in the franchise business with 24 of those being with FranChoice, my focus is on helping people find their way through the world of franchising. I sell nothing and am not involved in the franchise sales process. I am a franchise business consultant and do not, in any way, consider myself a broker. I am simply a conduit between the prospect and the franchise company and I am here to educate and provide options to those interested in becoming franchisees. That being said, I consider this NASAA Franchise Broker Act to be overkill and have delineated my thoughts on this below.

The three main issues we want to touch on in the comments are:

1. FranChoice and its consultants are not involved in the franchise sales process – we are a lead source for franchise companies. We send them leads for prospective franchisees, which are then taken through a sales process by the franchise sales staff (whether internal employees or independent contractors like FSOs). As a lead source for franchise companies, just like internet advertising sites such as the IFA or Entrepreneur.com, or social media sites like Facebook and LinkedIn, or many other examples, we should not be covered in this definition of franchise sellers because that's not what we do. The confusing language in this regulation, designed to label as a broker anyone who is "indirectly" involved in the franchise sales process needs to be changed or the unintended consequences will be significant.
2. As for people who are actually involved in the franchise sales process, this new regulation is unnecessary, burdensome, costly and duplicates rules and regulations already in place.
3. Advocating for individual states to create their own rules and fees related to this disclosure process unnecessarily creates confusion and hardship from a compliance standpoint. If we need more regulation of franchise sales brokers, it should be done by the FTC on a national basis.

Please feel free to add your own thoughts or put these issues into your own words. I've included some alternative verbiage samples relating to these points below for you to consider:

Overly Broad Definitions

The definition of "franchise broker" in the Act is far too broad and would capture individuals who simply make referrals or provide information, not those actually engaged in franchise sales. This would require countless business professionals to register unnecessarily.

Definition Problems

The current definition of "franchise broker" would inadvertently capture:

- Funding sources and lead generation services if paid by the franchisor

- Referral sources to the franchisor
- Professional service providers offering ancillary services

Due Process Concerns

The broad definition of "franchise broker" lacks the precision required for regulatory certainty. Business professionals need clear guidance about when registration is required to avoid inadvertent violations.

Excessive Regulatory Burden

The proposed registration requirements would create an overwhelming administrative burden for small operators like myself. The compliance costs alone could force many of us out of business, ultimately reducing the resources available to help prospective franchisees navigate their options.

Practical Concerns

The registration requirements are impractical for an industry where professionals often work with multiple brands across multiple states. The compliance costs and administrative burden would be prohibitive for many legitimate operators.

Existing Oversight

Current state and federal regulations already address the legitimate concerns raised about broker conduct. Additional layers of regulation create compliance burdens without corresponding consumer protection benefits.

Alternative Solutions

Rather than broad registration requirements, the industry would be better served by enforcement of existing laws against fraud and misrepresentation, along with education initiatives for prospective franchisees.

With Kindest Regards,



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“Always with your best interest at heart”

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