From: Ann Marie Weaver

To: NASAA Comments; Theresa Leets; bill.beatty@dfi.wa.gov; Erin Houston

Cc: Jeff Elgin

Subject: [EXTERNAL]NASAA Model Franchise Broker Act Comments

Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:23:20 PM

Attachments: <u>image.pnq</u>

Hello,

I am sending this email as an experienced franchise consultant with concerns to share. Thank you in advance for your attention and time to review.

Much of my expertise comes from actually owning multiple franchises over the last 15 years.

I used a franchise broker to help guide me in my original search and feel strongly about maintaining high professional standards as a <u>consultant</u>.

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.

Thank you for your time to review.



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