

By the Committee on Tourism and Representative Tamargo

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to pugilistic exhibitions;  
3           amending s. 548.003, F.S.; providing that the  
4           location of the State Athletic Commission  
5           shall be in Tampa; amending s. 548.007, F.S.;  
6           revising applicability of the Joe Lang Kershaw  
7           Act; amending s. 548.008, F.S.; clarifying  
8           language with respect to prohibited toughman  
9           and badman competitions; amending s. 548.026,  
10          F.S.; revising language with respect to the  
11          duration of licenses issued under the act;  
12          amending s. 548.043, F.S.; revising provisions  
13          regulating weights, classes, and gloves;  
14          providing an effective date.

15  
16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17  
18           Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 548.003, Florida  
19 Statutes, is amended to read:

20           548.003 State Athletic Commission.--

21           (3) The commission shall maintain an office in Tampa  
22 ~~Tallahassee~~ and any necessary branch offices. At the first  
23 meeting of the commission after June 1 of each year, the  
24 commission shall select a chairman from among its membership.  
25 Three members shall constitute a quorum and the concurrence of  
26 at least three members is necessary for official commission  
27 action.

28           Section 2. Section 548.007, Florida Statutes, is  
29 amended to read:

30  
31

1           548.007 Applicability of act to amateur matches and  
2 certain other matches or events.--With the exception of s.  
3 548.008,sections 548.001-548.079 do not apply to:  
4           (1) Any match in which the participants are amateurs;  
5           (2) Any match conducted or sponsored by a university,  
6 college, or secondary school if all the participants are  
7 students regularly enrolled in the institution;  
8           (3) Any match conducted or sponsored by a nationally  
9 chartered veterans' organization registered with the state;  
10          (4) Any match conducted or sponsored by any company or  
11 detachment of the Florida National Guard; or  
12          (5) Any official Olympic event.  
13          Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 548.008, Florida  
14 Statutes, is amended to read:  
15          548.008 Toughman and badman competition prohibited.--  
16          (1) No professional or amateur toughman or badman  
17 match, as described in this section, may be held in this  
18 state. Such competition includes any contest or exhibition  
19 where participants compete by using a combination of fighting  
20 skills. Such skills may include, but are not limited to,  
21 boxing, wrestling, kicking, or martial arts skills.  
22 Notwithstanding the above, this section shall not preclude  
23 kickboxing as regulated by this chapter.  
24          (2) Any person participating in or promoting a  
25 toughman or badman match is guilty of a misdemeanor of the  
26 second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.  
27 775.083.  
28          Section 4. Section 548.026, Florida Statutes, is  
29 amended to read:  
30  
31

1           548.026 Duration of license.--Each license shall  
2 expire 1 year ~~on December 31 next~~ following the date on which  
3 it was issued.

4           Section 5. Section 548.043, Florida Statutes, is  
5 amended to read:

6           548.043 Weights and classes, limitations; gloves.--

7           (1) The commission shall establish classes of boxers  
8 based upon weights.

9           (2) The commission shall establish by rule the  
10 acceptable ~~No boxing match shall be held in which the~~  
11 difference in weight between of the participants in the same  
12 weight class; however, the maximum difference in weight shall  
13 not exceed 12 ~~exceeds 10~~ pounds, except matches in the  
14 cruiserweight light-heavyweight and heavyweight classes and  
15 exhibitions held solely for training purposes.

16           (3) The commission shall establish by rule the  
17 appropriate weight of boxing gloves to be used in each boxing  
18 match; however, all participants in boxing matches shall wear  
19 boxing gloves weighing not less than 6 ounces each.  
20 Participants in all ~~other~~ types of matches shall wear such  
21 protective devices as the commission deems necessary.

22           Section 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
23 law.

24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31