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Commission; amending s. 548.002, F.S.; 3 providing definitions; creating s. 548.015, 4 F.S.; authorizing the commission to require the 5 posting of a bond or other form of security by 6 7 concessionaires; amending s. 548.003, F.S.; requiring one member of the Florida State 8 9 Boxing Commission to be a licensed physician; providing additional duties and 10 11 responsibilities of the commission; requiring 12 the commission to make recommendations with respect to unregulated and unsanctioned boxing 13 competitions; amending s. 548.017, F.S.; 14 15 providing requirements for ringside physicians; requiring concessionaires to be licensed; 16 17 amending s. 548.021, F.S.; providing a criminal penalty for attempting to obtain a license by 18

fingerprint cards; amending s. 548.028, F.S.; expanding provisions with respect to persons whom the commission may not license; amending s. 548.041, F.S.; providing requirements and restrictions with respect to age, condition,

means of fraudulent information; creating s.

548.024, F.S.; authorizing the commission to

investigations of applicants for licensure;

providing for the submission of fingerprint

cards; providing procedure for processing

adopt rules providing for background

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Florida State Boxing

and suspension of boxers; providing for

31 revocation of license under specified

circumstances; amending s. 548.043, F.S.; 1 2 providing requirements and procedure for the 3 weighing of participants in a boxing match; 4 amending s. 548.046, F.S.; revising provisions with respect to physicians' attendance at 5 6 boxing matches; providing state insurance 7 coverage and sovereign immunity protection for assigned physicians; authorizing blood tests of 8 9 participants prior to a match; providing for cancellation of the match for a test showing 10 the presence of a communicable disease or for 11 12 failure to present blood test results, if required; authorizing the commission to adopt 13 14 rules relating to blood tests; requiring the provision of urine samples by participants 15 under specified circumstances; providing for 16 revocation of license for failure or refusal to 17 provide a required urine sample; providing 18 19 conditions with respect to forfeiture and 20 redistribution of purse upon failure or refusal 21 to provide a required urine sample; specifying 22 authority of physicians at boxing matches; 23 providing procedure in the event of injury of a referee; amending s. 548.049, F.S.; increasing 24 25 the minimum coverage amount of required 26 insurance for participants in boxing matches; 27 requiring promoters to pay any deductible for 28 such insurance policy; amending s. 548.05, 29 F.S.; providing additional requirements with respect to contracts between managers and 30 professionals; amending s. 548.057, F.S.; 31

placing specified restrictions on judges of boxing matches; providing requirements with respect to number and location of judges; amending s. 548.06, F.S.; revising provisions relating to promoters and payments to the state; amending s. 548.074, F.S.; providing that the department shall have the power to administer oaths, take depositions, make inspections, serve subpoenas, and compel the attendance of witnesses and other evidence; amending s. 548.075, F.S.; authorizing the commission to adopt rules to permit the issuance of citations; repealing s. 548.045, F.S., relating to the creation, qualifications, compensation, and powers and duties of the medical advisory council; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 548.002, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

548.002 Definitions.--As used in this act, the term:

- (1) "Amateur" means a person who has never received nor competed for any purse or other article of value, either for the expenses of training or for participating in a match, other than a prize of \$50 in value or less.
 - (2) "Boxing" means to compete with the fists.
- (3) "Commission" means the Florida State Boxing Commission.

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"Concessionaire" means any person or business 1 2 entity not licensed as a promoter which receives revenues or 3 other compensation from the sale of tickets or from the sale 4 of souvenirs, programs, broadcast rights, or any other 5 concessions in conjunction with the promotion of a match. 6 (5) "Contest" means a boxing or kickboxing 7 engagement in which the participants strive earnestly to win. 8 (6) "Department" means the Department of Business 9 and Professional Regulation. (7)(6) "Exhibition" means a boxing or kickboxing 10 engagement in which the participants show or display their 11 12 skill without necessarily striving to win. 13 (8) "Foreign copromoter" means a promoter who has 14 no place of business within this state. 15 (9)(8) "Judge" means a person who has a vote in 16 determining the winner of any contest. 17 (10)(9) "Kickboxing" means to compete with the fists, feet, legs, or any combination thereof, and includes 18 19 "punchkick" and other similar competitions. 20 (11)(10) "Manager" means any person who, directly or 21 indirectly, controls or administers the boxing or kickboxing 22 affairs of any participant. 23 (12)(11) "Match" means any contest or exhibition. 24 (13)(12) "Matchmaker" means a person who brings together professionals or arranges matches for professionals. 25 26 (14)(13) "Physician" means an individual licensed to 27 practice medicine and surgery in this state. 28 (15)(14) "Professional" means a person who has 29 received or competed for any purse or other article of a value greater than \$50, either for the expenses of training or for 30 participating in any match.

(16)(15) "Promoter" means any person, and includes any officer, director, employee, or stockholder of a corporate promoter, who produces, arranges, or stages any match involving a professional.

(17)(16) "Purse" means the financial guarantee or other remuneration for which a professional is participating in a match and includes the professional's share of any payment received for radio broadcasting, television, and motion picture rights.

(18) "Second" or "cornerman" means a person who assists the fight participant between rounds and maintains the corner of the participant during the match.

 $\underline{(19)(17)}$ "Secretary" means the Secretary of Business and Professional Regulation.

Section 2. Section 548.015, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

548.015 Concessionaires; security.--The commission may require that before any license is issued or renewed to a concessionaire, or before the holding of a match, the concessionaire must file a surety bond, a cash deposit, or some other form of security with the commission in such reasonable amount as the commission determines.

Section 3. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 548.003, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

548.003 Florida State Boxing Commission; organization; meetings; accountability of commission members; compensation and travel expenses; association membership and participation.--

(1) The Florida State Boxing Commission is created and is assigned to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation for administrative and fiscal accountability

purposes only. The Florida State Boxing Commission shall consist of five members appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. One member must be a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 458 or chapter 459, who must maintain an unencumbered license in good standing, and who must, at the time of her or his appointment, have practiced medicine for at least 5 years. Upon the expiration of the term of a commissioner, the Governor shall appoint a successor to serve for a 4-year term. A commissioner whose term has expired shall continue to serve on the commission until such time as a replacement is appointed. If a vacancy on the commission occurs prior to the expiration of the term, it shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term in the same manner as the original appointment.

- (2) The Florida State Boxing Commission, as created by subsection (1), shall administer the provisions of this chapter. The commission has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this chapter and to implement each of the duties and responsibilities conferred upon the commission, including, but not limited to:
- (a) Development of an ethical code of conduct for commissioners, commission staff, and commission officials;
- (b) Facility and safety requirements relating to the ring, floor plan and apron seating, emergency medical equipment and services, and other equipment and services necessary for the conduct of a program of matches;
- (c) Requirements regarding a participant's apparel, bandages, handwraps, gloves, mouthpiece, and appearance during a match;

T	(d) Requirements relating to a manager's
2	participation, presence, and conduct during a match;
3	(e) Duties and responsibilities of all licensees under
4	this chapter;
5	(f) Procedures for hearings and resolution of
6	disputes;
7	(g) Qualifications for appointment of referees and
8	judges;
9	(h) Qualifications for and appointment of chief
LO	inspectors and inspectors and duties and responsibilities of
L1	chief inspectors and inspectors with respect to oversight and
L2	coordination of activities for each program of matches
L3	regulated under this chapter;
L4	(i) Designation and duties of a knockdown timekeeper;
L5	and
L6	(j) Setting fee and reimbursement schedules for
L7	referees and other officials appointed by the commission or
L8	the representative of the commission.
L9	Section 4. The Florida State Boxing Commission shall
20	conduct a review and analysis of boxing competitions not now
21	regulated or sanctioned, and shall provide recommendations to
22	the department and the Legislature regarding any rules or
23	legislation necessary to achieve effective regulation.
24	Section 5. Section 548.017, Florida Statutes, is
25	amended to read:
26	548.017 Boxers, managers, and other persons required
27	to have licenses
28	(1) A professional participant, manager, trainer,
29	second, timekeeper, referee, judge, announcer, physician,
30	matchmaker, concessionaire or booking agent or representative
31	of a booking agent shall be licensed before directly or

indirectly acting in such capacity in connection with any match involving a professional. A physician must be licensed pursuant to chapter 458 or chapter 459, must maintain an unencumbered license in good standing, and must demonstrate satisfactory medical training or experience in boxing, or a combination of both, to the executive director prior to working as the ringside physician.

(2) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 6. Section 548.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

548.021 Applications for licenses and permits.--

(1) An application for a license or a permit must:

 $\underline{(a)}$ (1) Be in writing on a form supplied by the commission which shall contain the applicant's social security number.

(b) Be verified by the applicant.

 $\underline{\text{(c)}}$ Be complete and have attached to the application any photographs and other exhibits required.

- (2)(4) Pursuant to the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, each party is required to provide his or her social security number in accordance with this section. Disclosure of social security numbers obtained through this requirement shall be limited to the purpose of administration of the Title IV-D program for child support enforcement.
- (3) Any person who seeks to obtain a license by means of knowingly false or fraudulent representations made in any application or who otherwise knowingly makes false statements concerning her or his medical history, boxing record, or other

personal information commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 7. Section 548.024, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

548.024 Background investigation of applicants for licensure.--

- (1) The commission is authorized to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 which provide for background investigations of applicants for licensure under this chapter for the purpose of ensuring the accuracy of the information provided in the application; ensuring that there are no active or pending criminal or civil indictments against the applicant; and ensuring satisfaction of all other requirements of this chapter. The background investigation may include, but is not limited to, the criminal and financial history of the applicant.
- (2) If the commission requires a background criminal history investigation of any applicant, it shall require the applicant to submit to the department a fingerprint card for this purpose. The fingerprint card shall be forwarded to the Division of Criminal Justice Information Systems within the Department of Law Enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for purposes of processing the fingerprint card to determine if the applicant has a criminal history record. The information obtained by the processing of the fingerprint card by the Department of Law Enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall be sent to the department for the purpose of determining if the applicant is statutorily qualified for licensure.

Section 8. Section 548.028, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

548.028 Refusal to issue license.--The commission shall not issue a license to:

- (1) Any person or business entity that who in any jurisdiction has been convicted of any act, or who has a trustee, partner, officer, director, or owner that has been convicted of any act, that which would constitute a violation of this chapter or which would constitute any of the grounds set forth in this chapter for suspension or revocation of a license or against whom such charges are pending before any regulatory body; or
- (2) Any person <u>or business entity that who</u> has been named in <u>any an</u> information or indictment, <u>or who has a trustee</u>, <u>partner</u>, <u>officer</u>, <u>director</u>, <u>or owner that has been named in an information or indictment</u>, for any act <u>that which</u> would constitute a violation of this chapter or a ground for suspension or revocation of a license.

Section 9. Section 548.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

(Substantial rewording of section. See

s. 548.041, F.S., for present text.)

548.041 Age, condition, and suspension of boxers.--

- (1) A person shall not be licensed as a participant, and the license of any participant shall be suspended or revoked, if such person:
 - (a) Is under the age of 18;
- (b) Has participated in a match in this state which was not sanctioned by the commission or by a Native American commission properly constituted under federal law; or
- (c) Does not meet certain health and medical
 examination conditions as required by rule of the commission.

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(2)(a) A participant losing by knockout as a result of being counted out in any jurisdiction shall be automatically suspended for a period of time as determined by the attending physician or commission representative, or 60 calendar days after the date of the knockout, whichever is longer. A participant shall not engage in any match, contact exhibition, or contact sparring for training purposes during the suspension period. After the suspension period and before engaging in any match, contact exhibition, or contact sparring for training purposes, the participant shall be examined by a physician. The participant shall advise the physician of the previous knockout or technical draw and shall provide medical records or his or her permission for the physician to consult with the physician who was the treating physician at the time of the previous knockout or technical draw. The results of this examination shall be filed with the commission before any further matches are approved for the participant.

(b) A participant losing by technical knockout, technical draw, or disqualification shall be automatically suspended for a period of time to be determined by the physician or commission representative, or 30 calendar days after the date of the technical knockout, technical draw, or disqualification, whichever is longer. A participant shall not engage in any match, contact exhibition, or contact sparring for training purposes during the suspension period without the approval of the physician. After the suspension period and before engaging in any match, contact exhibition, or contact sparring for training purposes, the participant shall be examined by a physician. The participant shall advise the physician of the previous knockout or technical draw and shall provide medical records or his or her permission for the

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physician to consult with the physician who was the treating physician at the time of the previous knockout or technical draw. The results of this examination shall be filed with the commission before any further matches are approved for the participant. In the case of a disqualification, the commission representative shall determine whether a medical clearance shall be required following suspension.

- (c) Any participant who has been suspended by any state as a result of a recent knockout or series of consecutive losses, an injury, requirement for a medical procedure, physician denial of certification, failure of a drug test, the use of aliases, or the falsifying or attempting to falsify official identification cards or documents shall not be permitted to participate in this state until such time as the state in which the participant is suspended removes his or her name from the suspension list or until the requirements of such suspension have been fulfilled and proof of such has been provided to this state. If a participant has been suspended in another state for any reason other than those stated in this paragraph, the participant may be permitted to participate if the state in which the participant is suspended is notified and consulted with by this state before the granting of approval to participate or the participant appeals to the Association of Boxing Commissions and the association determines that the suspension of such participant was without sufficient grounds, for an improper purpose, or not related to the health and safety of the participant.
- (d) Any participant who fails to appear at a match or fails to appear at a match at the designated time for which the participant or the participant's manager has contracted and does not provide a valid reason or, in the case of

physical disability, furnish a physician's certificate, shall be suspended for a period to be determined by the commission or shall be fined, or both, as determined by the commission.

(e) The license of any participant shall be revoked and shall not be reinstated if such participant intentionally strikes, strikes at, touches in any way, or threatens to touch in any way, any official.

Section 10. Subsection (4) is added to section 548.043, Florida Statutes, to read:

548.043 Weights and classes, limitations; gloves.--

(4) Participants in a match shall be weighed on the same scale at a time and place to be determined by the commission or a commission representative. The weigh-in shall be conducted in the presence of the opponent of the participant and a commission representative. If a participant fails to arrive at the weigh-in at the scheduled time and place, the opponent of the late-arriving participant will be permitted to be weighed without the late-arriving participant present. The participant who arrived at the weigh-in on time shall not lose his right of observing the weighing in of his opponent. The weigh-in shall occur no sooner than 4:00 p.m. on the day preceding the date of the program of matches or at such other time as designated by the commission or commission representative.

Section 11. Section 548.046, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

548.046 Physician's attendance at match; examinations; cancellation of match.--

(1) The commission, or the commission representative, shall assign to each match at least one α physician who shall observe the physical condition of the participants and advise

the commissioner or <u>commission representative</u> deputy in charge and the referee of the participants' conditions before, and during, and after the match. The commission shall establish a schedule of fees for the physician's services. The physician's fee shall be paid by the promoter of the match attended by the physician. The physician shall be considered an agent of the commission in determining the state insurance coverage and sovereign immunity protection applicability of ss. 284.31 and 768.28.

(2)(a) In addition to any other required examination, each participant shall be examined by the attending physician at the time of weigh-in. If the physician determines that a participant is physically or mentally unfit to proceed, the physician shall notify any commissioner or the commission representative who shall immediately cancel the match. The examination shall conform to rules adopted by the commission based on the advice of the medical advisory council. The result of the examination shall be reported in a writing signed by the physician and filed with the commission prior to completion of the weigh-in.

(b) The commission may require, by rule, each participant to present to the commission representative at the time of the weigh-in an original copy of blood test results which demonstrate whether the participant is free from any communicable disease. If required by the commission and the blood test results are not presented as required by commission rule or reveal the participant has a communicable disease, the commission representative shall immediately cancel the match. The commission may adopt, by rule, protocols and procedures for the blood tests and the cancellation of a match, a list of communicable diseases covered by this paragraph, and a time

period within which the blood test must be taken prior to the match.

- (3)(a) In a match that is a sanctioned championship title fight, or whenever the commission representative has reason to believe that a participant has ingested or used a prohibited drug or foreign substance, the commission representative shall request and the participant shall provide, under the supervision of the attending physician, commission representative, or inspector, a sample or samples of his or her urine taken not less than 1 hour before the commencement of the match or more than 1 hour after the conclusion of the match. No participant shall use substances or methods which could alter the integrity of the urine sample. Urine samples shall be taken in accordance with the protocol as agreed upon in writing between the commission and the laboratory used for processing the urine samples.
- (b) The commission may require urine samples, as provided in paragraph (a), to be done randomly. If one participant in a match is tested randomly, the other participant in the match shall be tested also.
- immediately upon request shall result in the revocation of the participant's license. Any participant who has been adjudged the loser of a match and who subsequently refuses to or is unable to provide a urine sample shall forfeit his or her share of the purse to the commission. Any participant who is adjudged the winner of a match and who subsequently refuses to or is unable to provide a urine sample shall forfeit the win and shall not be allowed to engage in any future match in Florida. A no decision result shall be entered into the official record as the result of the match. The purse shall be

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redistributed as though the participant found to be in violation of this subsection had lost the match. If redistribution of the purse is not necessary or after redistribution of the purse is completed, the participant found to be in violation of this subsection shall forfeit his or her share of the purse to the commission.

(4) The attending physician or physicians shall provide medical assistance at the facility to the commission representative and medical advice to the referee during the match and shall be accorded the cooperation of all commission representatives and licensees present for the purpose of performing his or her medical duties. If, in the opinion of the attending physician, the referee has received an injury that prohibits the referee from continuing to officiate, the physician shall notify the commission representative, who shall temporarily halt the match. The injured referee shall be attended to by the physician until the referee is no longer in danger or has been transferred to the care of another qualified person. The commission representative shall then direct that the match continue under the supervision of the referee or under the supervision of another referee if the referee is unable to continue.

Section 12. Section 548.049, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

548.049 Medical, surgical, and hospital insurance; life insurance.--

(1) The commission shall, by rule, require participants to be covered by not less than \$20,000\$ of insurance for medical, surgical, and hospital care required as a result of injuries sustained while engaged in matches. The insured shall be the beneficiary of such policies. Any

deductible associated with the insurance policy shall be paid by the promoter and shall not be paid by or charged to the participant.

(2) The commission may also require participants to be covered by not less than \$20,000 \$5,000 of life insurance covering deaths caused by injuries received while engaged in matches.

Section 13. Subsection (1) of section 548.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

548.05 Control of contracts.--

(1) The commission shall adopt rules governing the form and content of contracts executed in this state between managers between promoters, foreign copromoters, and professionals. All such contracts shall be in writing and shall contain all provisions specifically worded as required by rules of the commission. Contracts that do not contain all provisions specifically worded as required by rules of the commission shall be deemed to contain such provisions. A copy of all such contracts must be filed with the commission within 7 days after execution.

Section 14. Subsections (6) through (11) are added to section 548.057, Florida Statutes, to read:

548.057 Attendance of referee and judges at match; scoring; seconds.--

(6) No judge licensed in this state shall act as a judge at any match in a state, territory, commonwealth, or Native American Reservation that is not regulated by a state boxing commission unless the match is supervised by a state boxing commission or a Native American commission properly constituted under federal law.

1 (7) No judge shall also serve as a supervisor or on
2 the ratings committee or recommend boxers to the ratings
3 committee for a sanctioning body.

- (8) Any person whose application for a judge's license has been denied shall not be permitted to reapply for a judge's license for a period of 6 months. Any person whose application for a judge's license has been denied on three occasions shall not be permitted to reapply.
- (9) The number of judges shall be assigned in accordance with rules of the commission. The number of unofficial judges at each event shall be limited to three by the commission.
- (10) The judges shall be located in seats designated for them by the commission representative.
- (11) If sufficient judges are not available, a referee shall be selected to act as a judge for that specific program of matches.

Section 15. Present subsections (2) and (3) of section 548.06, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (5) and (6), respectively, and new subsections (2), (3), and (4) are added to that section, to read:

548.06 Payments to state; exemptions.--

(2) Where the rights to telecast a match or matches held in Florida to be viewed in Florida or outside of Florida are in whole owned by, sold to, acquired by, or held by any person who intends to or subsequently sells or, in some other manner, extends such rights in part to another, such person is deemed to be a promoter and must be licensed as such in this state. Such person shall, within 72 hours after the match, file with the commission a written report that includes the

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number of tickets sold, the amount of gross receipts, and any other facts the commission may require.

- (3) A concessionaire shall, within 72 hours after the match, file with the commission a written report that includes the number of tickets sold, the amount of gross receipts, and any other facts the commission may require.
- (4) Any written report required to be filed with the commission under this section shall be postmarked within 72 hours after the conclusion of the match, and an additional 5 days shall be allowed for mailing.

Section 16. Section 548.074, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

548.074 Power to administer oaths, take depositions, and issue subpoenas. -- For the purpose of any investigation or proceeding conducted pursuant to this chapter, the department shall have the power to administer oaths, take depositions, make inspections when authorized by statute, issue subpoenas which shall be supported by affidavit, serve subpoenas and other process, and compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers, documents, and other evidence. The department shall exercise this power on its own initiative or whenever requested by the commission. Challenges to, and enforcement of, subpoenas and orders shall be handled as provided in s. 120.569. In addition to the powers of subpoena in chapter 120, each member of the commission may issue subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of, or the production of books and papers by, any person whom the commission believes to have information or documents of importance to any commission investigation.

Section 17. Section 548.075, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

548.075 Administrative fines; citations.--(1) The commission may impose a fine of not more than \$5,000 for any violation of this chapter in lieu of or in addition to any other punishment provided for such violation. (2) The commission may adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.54 and 120.536(1) to permit the issuance of citations for any violation of this chapter in lieu of or in addition to any other punishment provided for such violation. Section 18. Section 548.045, Florida Statutes, is repealed. Section 19. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.