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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to pugilistic contests and exhibitions;
3 providing a popular name; amending s. 548.002, F.S.;
4 defining the term "amateur sanctioning organization";
5 revising certain definitions to apply them to both amateur
6 and professional participants; amending s. 548.003, F.S.;
7 providing the Florida State Boxing Commission the
8 responsibility for, and the authority to adopt rules
9 relating to, the approval of amateur sanctioning
10 organizations for amateur boxing and kickboxing matches
11 held in the state; amending s. 548.006, F.S.; limiting
12 required certification of competitiveness of mixed martial
13 arts and kickboxing matches to professional matches;
14 expanding power of the commission to control pugilistic
15 contests and exhibitions to include exclusive jurisdiction
16 over the approval of amateur sanctioning organizations for
17 amateur boxing and kickboxing matches; specifying
18 requirements for the holding of professional and amateur
19 matches; creating s. 548.0065, F.S.; prohibiting certain
20 amateur matches except under certain circumstances;
21 prohibiting approval of amateur sanctioning organizations
22 not meeting and enforcing certain health and safety
23 standards and not meeting certain other background,
24 training, and experience requirements; providing for
25 periodic checks for compliance with enforcement and
26 supervision requirements; requiring biennial or sooner, if
27 necessary, sanctioning review; providing for continuation,
28 suspension, or revocation of sanctioning approval pursuant
29 to such review; amending s. 548.008, F.S.; prohibiting the

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30 holding of certain amateur matches not sanctioned and
 31 supervised by an amateur sanctioning organization approved
 32 by the commission; prohibiting the holding of amateur
 33 mixed martial arts matches; prohibiting the holding of
 34 professional matches not meeting the requirements of ch.
 35 548, F.S., and rules adopted by the commission; providing
 36 penalties for participating in or holding, promoting, or
 37 sponsoring a prohibited match; deleting provisions
 38 relating to professional or amateur toughman or badman
 39 competitions; repealing s. 548.007, F.S., relating to
 40 applicability of ch. 548, F.S., to amateur matches and
 41 certain other matches or events; providing an effective
 42 date.

43

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

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46 Section 1. This act shall be known by the popular name the
 47 "Stacy Young Act."

48 Section 2. Section 548.002, Florida Statutes, is amended
 49 to read:

50 548.002 Definitions.--As used in this chapter ~~act~~, the
 51 term:

52 (1) "Amateur" means a person who has never received nor
 53 competed for any purse or other article of value, either for the
 54 expenses of training or for participating in a match, other than
 55 a prize of \$50 in value or less.

56 (2) "Amateur sanctioning organization" means any business
 57 entity organized for sanctioning and supervising matches
 58 involving amateurs.

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59 (3)~~(2)~~ "Boxing" means to compete with the fists.

60 (4)~~(3)~~ "Commission" means the Florida State Boxing
61 Commission.

62 (5)~~(4)~~ "Concessionaire" means any person or business
63 entity not licensed as a promoter which receives revenues or
64 other compensation from the sale of tickets or from the sale of
65 souvenirs, programs, broadcast rights, or any other concessions
66 in conjunction with the promotion of a match.

67 (6)~~(5)~~ "Contest" means a boxing, kickboxing, or mixed
68 martial arts engagement in which persons participating ~~the~~
69 ~~participants~~ strive earnestly to win using, but not necessarily
70 being limited to, strikes and blows to the head.

71 (7)~~(6)~~ "Department" means the Department of Business and
72 Professional Regulation.

73 (8)~~(7)~~ "Exhibition" means a boxing, kickboxing, or mixed
74 martial arts engagement in which persons participating ~~the~~
75 ~~participants~~ show or display their skill without necessarily
76 striving to win using, but not necessarily being limited to,
77 strikes and blows to the head.

78 (9)~~(8)~~ "Foreign copromoter" means a promoter who has no
79 place of business within this state.

80 (10)~~(9)~~ "Judge" means a person who has a vote in
81 determining the winner of any contest.

82 (11)~~(10)~~ "Kickboxing" means to compete with the fists,
83 feet, legs, or any combination thereof, and includes "punchkick"
84 and other similar competitions.

85 (12)~~(11)~~ "Manager" means any person who, directly or
86 indirectly, controls or administers the boxing, kickboxing, or
87 mixed martial arts affairs of any participant.

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88 (13)~~(12)~~ "Match" means any contest or exhibition.

89 (14)~~(13)~~ "Matchmaker" means a person who brings together
 90 professionals or arranges matches for professionals.

91 (15)~~(14)~~ "Mixed martial arts" means unarmed combat
 92 involving the use, subject to any applicable limitations set
 93 forth in this chapter, of a combination of techniques from
 94 different disciplines of the martial arts, including, but not
 95 limited to, grappling, kicking, and striking.

96 (16)~~(15)~~ "Participant" means a professional competing in a
 97 boxing, kickboxing, or mixed martial arts match.

98 (17)~~(16)~~ "Physician" means an individual licensed to
 99 practice medicine and surgery in this state.

100 (18)~~(17)~~ "Professional" means a person who has received or
 101 competed for any purse or other article of a value greater than
 102 \$50, either for the expenses of training or for participating in
 103 any match.

104 (19)~~(18)~~ "Promoter" means any person, and includes any
 105 officer, director, employee, or stockholder of a corporate
 106 promoter, who produces, arranges, or stages any match involving
 107 a professional.

108 (20)~~(19)~~ "Purse" means the financial guarantee or other
 109 remuneration for which a professional is participating in a
 110 match and includes the professional's share of any payment
 111 received for radio broadcasting, television, and motion picture
 112 rights.

113 (21)~~(20)~~ "Second" or "cornerman" means a person who
 114 assists the match participant between rounds and maintains the
 115 corner of the participant during the match.

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116 (22)~~(21)~~ "Secretary" means the Secretary of Business and
 117 Professional Regulation.

118 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 548.003, Florida
 119 Statutes, is amended to read:

120 548.003 Florida State Boxing Commission.--

121 (2) The Florida State Boxing Commission, as created by
 122 subsection (1), shall administer the provisions of this chapter.
 123 The commission has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss.
 124 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this
 125 chapter and to implement each of the duties and responsibilities
 126 conferred upon the commission, including, but not limited to:

127 (a) Development of an ethical code of conduct for
 128 commissioners, commission staff, and commission officials.+

129 (b) Facility and safety requirements relating to the ring,
 130 floor plan and apron seating, emergency medical equipment and
 131 services, and other equipment and services necessary for the
 132 conduct of a program of matches.+

133 (c) Requirements regarding a participant's apparel,
 134 bandages, handwraps, gloves, mouthpiece, and appearance during a
 135 match.+

136 (d) Requirements relating to a manager's participation,
 137 presence, and conduct during a match.+

138 (e) Duties and responsibilities of all licensees under
 139 this chapter.+

140 (f) Procedures for hearings and resolution of disputes.+

141 (g) Qualifications for appointment of referees and
 142 judges.+

143 (h) Qualifications for and appointment of chief inspectors
 144 and inspectors and duties and responsibilities of chief

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145 inspectors and inspectors with respect to oversight and
 146 coordination of activities for each program of matches regulated
 147 under this chapter.†

148 (i) Designation and duties of a knockdown timekeeper.† ~~and~~

149 (j) Setting fee and reimbursement schedules for referees
 150 and other officials appointed by the commission or the
 151 representative of the commission.

152 (k) Establishment of criteria for approval, disapproval,
 153 suspension of approval, and revocation of approval of amateur
 154 sanctioning organizations for amateur boxing and kickboxing
 155 matches held in this state, including, but not limited to, the
 156 health and safety standards the organizations use before,
 157 during, and after the matches to ensure the health, safety, and
 158 well-being of the amateurs participating in the matches,
 159 including the qualifications and numbers of health care
 160 personnel required to be present, the qualifications required
 161 for referees, and other requirements relating to the health,
 162 safety, and well-being of the amateurs participating in the
 163 matches.

164 Section 4. Section 548.006, Florida Statutes, is amended
 165 to read:

166 548.006 Power of commission to control professional and
 167 amateur pugilistic contests and exhibitions; certification of
 168 competitiveness of professional mixed martial arts and
 169 kickboxing matches.--

170 (1) The commission has exclusive jurisdiction over every
 171 match held within the state which involves a professional.

172 (2) As to professional mixed martial arts and kickboxing,
 173 until a central repository of match records for each exists and

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174 is approved by the commission, the matchmaker shall certify as
 175 to the competitiveness of each match.

176 (3) The commission has exclusive jurisdiction over
 177 approval, disapproval, suspension of approval, and revocation of
 178 approval of all amateur sanctioning organizations for amateur
 179 boxing and kickboxing matches held in this state.

180 (4)~~(3)~~ Professional and amateur matches shall be held in
 181 accordance with this chapter and the rules adopted by the
 182 commission.

183 Section 5. Section 548.0065, Florida Statutes, is created
 184 to read:

185 548.0065 Amateur matches; sanctioning and supervision;
 186 health and safety standards; compliance checks; continuation,
 187 suspension, and revocation of sanctioning approval.--

188 (1) No match involving amateurs that utilizes, but is not
 189 necessarily limited to, strikes or blows to the head may be held
 190 in this state unless it is sanctioned and supervised by an
 191 amateur sanctioning organization approved by the commission. An
 192 approved amateur sanctioning organization may only sanction and
 193 supervise the contests or exhibitions in the particular sport or
 194 sports for which it has expertise and for which it is approved
 195 by the commission.

196 (2) The commission may not approve any amateur sanctioning
 197 organization for boxing whose health and safety standards are
 198 less stringent than those of USA Boxing and for kickboxing whose
 199 health and safety standards are less stringent than those of the
 200 International Sport Kickboxing Association.

201 (3) The commission may not approve any amateur sanctioning
 202 organization unless it has adopted and agreed to enforce a

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203 defined set of standards that applies to all matches which will
 204 adequately protect the health and safety of the amateurs
 205 participating in the matches and the public and can adequately
 206 demonstrate to the satisfaction of the commission that the
 207 principals of the organization have sufficient background,
 208 training, and experience in sanctioning and supervising matches
 209 for which the organization is approved.

210 (4) Periodic compliance checks may be performed by a
 211 representative of the commission designated by the executive
 212 director in order to ensure enforcement of approved health and
 213 safety standards and supervision of matches by the approved
 214 amateur sanctioning organization.

215 (5) Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 120, any
 216 member of the commission or the executive director of the
 217 commission may, upon her or his own motion or upon the verified
 218 written complaint of any person charging the approved amateur
 219 sanctioning organization with failure to supervise the amateur
 220 matches or to enforce the approved health and safety standards
 221 required under this chapter, suspend the approval of the
 222 organization to sanction and supervise amateur matches. The
 223 commission shall hold a hearing within 10 days after the date on
 224 which the approval is suspended.

225 (6) The commission shall review its approval of the
 226 amateur sanctioning organization at least biennially, or sooner
 227 if determined necessary based upon the periodic compliance
 228 checks or complaints to the commission, to determine
 229 continuation of approval. The commission may continue approval
 230 or may suspend or revoke approval based upon compliance of the

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231 organization with the approved sanctioning standards and its
 232 ability to supervise matches in the state.

233 Section 6. Section 548.008, Florida Statutes, is amended
 234 to read:

235 548.008 ~~Toughman and badman competition~~ Prohibited
 236 competitions.--

237 (1) No match involving amateurs that utilizes, but is not
 238 necessarily limited to, strikes or blows to the head may be held
 239 in this state unless it is sanctioned and supervised by an
 240 amateur sanctioning organization approved by the commission as
 241 required by this chapter.

242 (2) No amateur mixed martial arts match may be held in
 243 this state.

244 (3) No professional match may be held in this state unless
 245 it meets the requirements for holding the match as provided in
 246 this chapter and the rules adopted by the commission.

247 ~~(1) No professional or amateur toughman or badman match,~~
 248 ~~as described in this section, may be held in this state. Such~~
 249 ~~competition includes any contest or exhibition where~~
 250 ~~participants compete by using a combination of skills. Such~~
 251 ~~skills may include, but are not limited to, boxing, wrestling,~~
 252 ~~kicking, or martial arts skills. Notwithstanding the above, this~~
 253 ~~section shall not preclude kickboxing or mixed martial arts as~~
 254 ~~regulated by this chapter.~~

255 (4)(a)(2) Any person participating in a match prohibited
 256 under this section, knowing the match to be prohibited, commits
 257 ~~or promoting a professional or amateur toughman or badman match~~
 258 ~~is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as~~
 259 ~~provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.~~

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260 (b) Any person holding, promoting, or sponsoring a match
261 prohibited under this section commits a felony of the third
262 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s.
263 775.084.

264 Section 7. Section 548.007, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

265 Section 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.