



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2009-10 Legislative Session

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL: 1187

PRINTER'S NO: 2374

PRIME SPONSOR: Gergely

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY	FY 2009/10	FY 2010/11
Expenditure Increase/(Decrease):		
General Fund	See Analysis	See Analysis
Revenue Increase/(Decrease):		
General Fund	See Analysis	See Analysis

OVERVIEW:

House Bill 1187 amends Title 5 (Athletics and Sports) by allowing the State Athletic Commission (Commission) to enter into agreements with other states, territories or possessions of the United States or tribal organizations permitting the Commission to supervise boxing matches in the those areas. The bill eliminates all exceptions to age limitations and makes a distinction between professional (which would be limited to those at least 18 years of age) and amateur boxing. Any age restriction or requirement for amateur boxing would have to conform to local amateur association rules as approved by the Commission. A physician or ambulance with emergency medical personnel must be in attendance at all professional wrestling events. In addition, athlete agents would be exempted from the requirement to execute and file a surety bond under certain circumstances.

The bill requires that a contract between a boxer and a manager that is executed on a form provided by the Commission must provide for binding arbitration of disputes by the Commission and must be conducted by a representative of the Commission appointed by the chairman. The bill also adds civil penalties to existing criminal penalties for knowing or reckless violations of the rules and regulations of professional wrestling contests and exhibitions. The Commission could impose a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 for such a violation. Any licensee or permittee upon whom a civil penalty is imposed would have a right to a hearing before the Commission within ten days after notice of the Commission's intent to impose the penalty is received.

The bill would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS:

The Department of State reports that there will be no fiscal impact for proposals relating to the age of boxers, medical presence at wrestling events or exemption from bonding requirement for athlete agents representing only professional players.

The proposal authorizing the Commission to enter into agreements to supervise professional boxing in states with no commission or on tribal reservations will generate revenue for the Commission. The Commission anticipates that revenues generated from Delaware events alone will be between \$5,000 and \$10,000 per year.

The requirement that a representative of the Commission must conduct binding arbitration of disputes is expected to have minimal cost. Under the Uniform Arbitration Act, any costs are borne by the participants as awarded by the arbitrators, unless otherwise agreed to by the participants before the arbitration.

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House Appropriations Committee, (D)

DATE: July 6, 2009

General Note and Disclaimer: *This Fiscal Note was prepared pursuant to House Rule 19(a), and the elements considered and reported above are required by Section 5 of the rule. Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*