



Legislative Council Staff

Research Note

Version: House Business
Committee
Date: 3/15/2017

Bill Number

Senate Bill 17-148

Sponsors

**Senator Priola
Representative Garnett**

Short Title

***Sunset Continue Office of
Boxing***

Research Analyst

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Status

The bill is currently pending before the House Business Affairs and Labor Committee. This research note reflects the reengrossed bill.

Background

The State Boxing Commission (commission) was created in 1927 by the Colorado General Assembly. In 1947, it was renamed the Colorado State Athletic Commission, which continued to regulate boxing in the state until 1977, following a sunset review. From 1977 to 2000, two sunrise reviews were conducted for the boxing profession. Both reviews recommended against regulation.

In 1996, the federal Professional Boxing Safety Act was passed. In response, the Colorado Boxing Alliance began coordinating the oversight of boxing events in Colorado. In 2000, House Bill 00-1183, known as the Colorado Professional Boxing Safety Act, created the Colorado Office of Boxing (office), reconstituted the commission, and directed the commission to promulgate rules addressing: licensing requirements for boxers, promoters, judges, and referees; insurance and bonding requirements; guidelines for participant compensation, contracts, and financial arrangements; and other areas.

House Bill 02-1078 established grounds for discipline and disciplinary procedures and directed the commission to promulgate rules establishing licensing requirements for boxing inspectors and seconds. Senate Bill 04-024 standardized certain statutory language, granted the director of the office the authority to issue letters of admonition, and further defined disciplinary and renewal procedures. House Bill 06-1264 granted the director of the office the authority to issue cease and desist orders and confidential letters of concern. The commission underwent a sunset review in 2009, resulting in the passage of House Bill 10-1245, which added statutory language addressing

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mixed martial arts and clarified certain licensing requirements.

The commission underwent another sunset review in 2016, resulting in the introduction of this bill. In June 2016, there were 1,511 boxing professionals licensed in Colorado, including 676 participants, 787 seconds, 28 officials, and 20 promoters.

Senate Action

Senate Business, Labor, and Technology Committee (February 14, 2017). One member of the public testified in support of the bill. The committee adopted amendment L.001, which changed the name of the commission to the Colorado Combative Sports Commission and the name of the office to the Office of Combative Sports. The committee also adopted amendment L.002, which defined martial arts and added it to the definition of boxing. The committee referred the bill, as amended, to the Senate Finance Committee.

Senate Finance Committee (February 16, 2017). One member of the public testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Senate Appropriations Committee (March 7, 2017). The committee adopted amendment J.001, which added an appropriations clause. The committee referred the bill, as amended, to the Senate Committee of the Whole.

Senate second reading (March 9, 2017). The Senate adopted the Senate Business, Labor, and Technology Committee and Senate Appropriations Committee reports. The Senate passed the bill on second reading with no additional amendments.

Senate third reading (March 10, 2017). The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no additional amendments.

Relevant Research

Department of Regulatory Agencies, 2016 Sunset Review, Colorado Professional Boxing Safety Act, October 2016: <https://tinyurl.com/j8jkfdh>