



## 100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

HB2856

by Rep. Joe Sosnowski

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

225 ILCS 105/1	from Ch. 111, par. 5001
225 ILCS 105/6	from Ch. 111, par. 5006
225 ILCS 105/8.5 new	

Amends the Boxing and Full-contact Martial Arts Act. Changes the definition of "amateur" to allow the person to receive a stipend for an athletic club or sponsor of the contestant to cover the cost of training and participation expenses not to exceed \$1,500. Provides that "full-contact martial arts" includes, but is not limited to, mixed martial arts and kickboxing techniques. Defines "incumbent sanctioning body". Exempts the following from oversight by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation: (1) amateur boxing or full-contact martial arts contests that occur in facilities owned, operated, or managed by a State, county, or local public entity and are conducted by a sanctioning body and (2) amateur boxing, martial arts, or full-contact martial arts contests that are sponsored by a not-for-profit organization and conducted by a sanctioning body. Requires the sponsor of a qualified contest exempt from Department oversight to notify the Department of its intent to sponsor events. Effective immediately.

LRB100 10434 SMS 20643 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Boxing and Full-contact Martial Arts Act is  
5 amended by changing Sections 1 and 6 and adding Section 8.5 as  
6 follows:

7 (225 ILCS 105/1) (from Ch. 111, par. 5001)

8 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2022)

9 Sec. 1. Short title and definitions.

10 (a) This Act may be cited as the Boxing and Full-contact  
11 Martial Arts Act.

12 (b) As used in this Act:

13 "Department" means the Department of Financial and  
14 Professional Regulation.

15 "Secretary" means the Secretary of Financial and  
16 Professional Regulation.

17 "Board" means the State of Illinois Athletic Board  
18 established pursuant to this Act.

19 "License" means the license issued for promoters,  
20 professionals, or officials in accordance with this Act.

21 "Professional contest" means a boxing or full-contact  
22 martial arts competition in which all of the participants  
23 competing against one another are professionals and where

1 the public is able to attend or a fee is charged.

2 "Permit" means the authorization from the Department  
3 to a promoter to conduct professional or amateur contests,  
4 or a combination of both.

5 "Promoter" means a person who is licensed and who holds  
6 a permit to conduct professional or amateur contests, or a  
7 combination of both.

8 Unless the context indicates otherwise, "person"  
9 includes, but is not limited to, an individual,  
10 association, organization, business entity, gymnasium, or  
11 club.

12 "Judge" means a person licensed by the Department who  
13 is located at ringside or adjacent to the fighting area  
14 during a professional contest and who has the  
15 responsibility of scoring the performance of the  
16 participants in that professional contest.

17 "Referee" means a person licensed by the Department who  
18 has the general supervision of and is present inside of the  
19 ring or fighting area during a professional contest.

20 "Amateur" means a person registered by the Department  
21 who is not competing for, and has never received or  
22 competed for, any purse or other article of value, directly  
23 or indirectly, either for participating in any contest  
24 covered by this Act ~~or for the expenses of training~~  
25 ~~therefor~~, other than a non-monetary prize that does not  
26 exceed \$50 in value or a stipend for an athletic club or

1 sponsor of the contestant to cover the cost of training and  
2 participation expenses not to exceed \$1,500.

3 "Professional" means a person licensed by the  
4 Department who competes for a money prize, purse, or other  
5 type of compensation in a professional contest held in  
6 Illinois.

7 "Second" means a person licensed by the Department who  
8 is present at any professional contest to provide  
9 assistance or advice to a professional during the contest.

10 "Matchmaker" means a person licensed by the Department  
11 who brings together professionals to compete in contests.

12 "Manager" means a person licensed by the Department who  
13 is not a promoter and who, under contract, agreement, or  
14 other arrangement, undertakes to, directly or indirectly,  
15 control or administer the affairs of professionals.

16 "Timekeeper" means a person licensed by the Department  
17 who is the official timer of the length of rounds and the  
18 intervals between the rounds.

19 "Purse" means the financial guarantee or any other  
20 remuneration for which contestants are participating in a  
21 professional contest.

22 "Physician" means a person licensed to practice  
23 medicine in all its branches under the Medical Practice Act  
24 of 1987.

25 "Martial arts" means a discipline or combination of  
26 different disciplines that utilizes sparring techniques

1 without the intent to injure, disable, or incapacitate  
2 one's opponent, such as, but not limited to, Karate, Kung  
3 Fu, Judo, Jujutsu, Tae Kwon Do, and Kyuki-Do.

4 "Full-contact martial arts" means the use of a singular  
5 discipline or a combination of techniques, including, but  
6 not limited to, mixed martial arts and kickboxing, from  
7 different disciplines of the martial arts, including,  
8 without limitation, full-force grappling, kicking, and  
9 striking with the intent to injure, disable, or  
10 incapacitate one's opponent.

11 "Amateur contest" means a boxing or full-contact  
12 martial arts competition in which all of the participants  
13 competing against one another are amateurs and where the  
14 public is able to attend or a fee is charged.

15 "Contestant" means a person who competes in either a  
16 boxing or full-contact martial arts contest.

17 "Address of record" means the designated address  
18 recorded by the Department in the applicant's or licensee's  
19 application file, license file, or registration file as  
20 maintained by the Department's licensure maintenance unit.  
21 It is the duty of the applicant or licensee to inform the  
22 Department of any change of address and those changes must  
23 be made either through the Department's website or by  
24 contacting the Department.

25 "Bout" means one match between 2 contestants.

26 "Sanctioning body" means an organization approved by

1 the Department under the requirements and standards stated  
2 in this Act and the rules adopted under this Act to act as  
3 a governing body that sanctions professional or amateur  
4 contests.

5 "Incumbent sanctioning body" means an organization  
6 that notifies the Department in writing that it is a  
7 recognized sanctioning body in more than 10 American  
8 states.

9 (Source: P.A. 96-663, eff. 8-25-09; 97-119, eff. 7-14-11;  
10 97-1123, eff. 8-27-12.)

11 (225 ILCS 105/6) (from Ch. 111, par. 5006)

12 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2022)

13 Sec. 6. Restricted contests and events.

14 (a) All professional and amateur contests, or a combination  
15 of both, in which physical contact is made are prohibited in  
16 Illinois unless authorized by the Department pursuant to the  
17 requirements and standards stated in this Act and the rules  
18 adopted pursuant to this Act. This subsection (a) does not  
19 apply to any of the following qualified contests:

20 (1) Amateur boxing or full-contact martial arts  
21 contests conducted by accredited secondary schools,  
22 colleges, or universities, although a fee may be charged.

23 (2) Amateur boxing contests that are sanctioned by USA  
24 Boxing or any other sanctioning organization approved by  
25 the Association of Boxing Commissions.

1 (3) Amateur boxing or full-contact martial arts  
2 contests that: (A) occur in facilities owned, operated, or  
3 managed conducted by a State, county, or local public  
4 municipal entity, as defined in the Local Governmental and  
5 Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act; and (B) are  
6 conducted by a sanctioning body approved under this Act.

7 (4) Amateur martial arts contests that are not defined  
8 as full-contact martial arts contests under this Act,  
9 including, but not limited to, Karate, Kung Fu, Judo,  
10 Jujutsu, Tae Kwon Do, and Kyuki-Do.

11 (5) Full-contact martial arts contests, as defined by  
12 this Act, that are recognized by the International Olympic  
13 Committee or are contested in the Olympic Games and are not  
14 conducted in an enclosed fighting area or ring.

15 (6) Amateur boxing, martial arts, or full-contact  
16 martial arts contests that are sponsored by a  
17 not-for-profit organization and conducted by a sanctioning  
18 body approved under this Act.

19 No other amateur boxing or full-contact martial arts  
20 contests shall be permitted unless authorized by the  
21 Department.

22 (b) The Department shall have the authority to determine  
23 whether a professional or amateur contest is exempt for  
24 purposes of this Section.

25 (c) The sponsor of a qualified contest exempt under  
26 subsection (a) is exempt from Department oversight, but shall

1 notify the Department of its intent to sponsor events covered  
2 under this Act.

3 (Source: P.A. 96-663, eff. 8-25-09; 97-119, eff. 7-14-11;  
4 97-1123, eff. 8-27-12.)

5 (225 ILCS 105/8.5 new)

6 Sec. 8.5. Sanctioning bodies. A sanctioning body must apply  
7 for approved status with the Department. Within 15 business  
8 days of an application, the Department must send written  
9 correspondence to the applicant of the procedures required for  
10 its approval or disapproval, including at least 2 meetings of  
11 the Board for the review of the application. The correspondence  
12 must include, but is not limited to, dates for board meetings,  
13 required amendments to the application for compliance, and  
14 paperwork filing requirements. The approval process may not  
15 exceed 4 months from the date the applicant filed for approved  
16 status.

17 An incumbent sanctioning body that is registered by the  
18 Department shall have all the rights and privileges of a  
19 sanctioning body as defined in this Act.

20 Notwithstanding this Section, all authority given to the  
21 Department and the Board to review and deny a sanctioning body  
22 for violations of health and safety standards covered within  
23 this Act apply.

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
25 becoming law.