

As Engrossed: 3/4/91, 3/6/91

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**
4 **By: Senator Hopkins**

A Bill

SENATE BILL 618

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 19 OF TITLE 17 OF THE ARKANSAS
9 CODE PERTAINING TO THE REGULATION OF WRESTLING, BOXING AND
10 SIMILAR SPORTS EXHIBITIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

11

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

13

14 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 17-19-201 is hereby amended to read as
15 follows:

16 "17-19-201. Creation - Members.

17 (a) A State Athletic Commission is created which shall consist of five
18 (5) *members* who shall be at least twenty-five (25) years of age.

19 (b) Members shall be appointed by the Governor, for a term of two (2)
20 years, as follows: one (1) representing the American Legion, any patriotic
21 organization chartered by authority of a special act of the Congress of the
22 United States, or a chartered civic club; one (1) representing the field of
23 physical education, one (1) representing the field of sports promotion, one
24 (1) consumer representative and one (1) member of a minority race. The terms
25 of the members serving on the commission on March 1, 1991 shall expire on the
26 effective date of this Act and those persons shall not be subject to
27 reappointment under this section. Furthermore, no person shall serve more
28 than two (2) consecutive terms on the commission.

29 (c) (1) The members of the commission shall serve without pay and shall
30 have authority to promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary for
31 the operation and enforcement of this chapter and not in conflict with this
32 chapter.

33 (2) The members of the commission shall be entitled to a per diem of
34 thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) in lieu of actual expenses for each day spent in
35 attending meetings of the commission or in attending other official business

1 of the commission, plus mileage at the rate prescribed in state travel
2 regulations."

3

4 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 17-19-301(b) is hereby amended to read as
5 follows:

6 "(b)(1) Local patriotic organizations, chartered civic clubs and the
7 Secretary of State shall be entitled to obtain a license to promote and
8 conduct wrestling, boxing, sparring, karate, judo, or combination matches and
9 exhibitions, for purses, and to charge admission fees for the matches in any
10 city, town, or area of the state subject to the rules and regulations of the
11 State Athletic Commission, and in compliance with laws relating thereto.

12 (2) When the Secretary of State sponsors any events, all funds received
13 by him as sponsor shall be deposited in the State Treasury as *general*
14 *revenues*."

15

16 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code 17-19-302(a) is hereby amended to read as
17 follows:

18 "(a)(1) The commission shall permit any patriotic organization
19 chartered by a special act of the Congress of the United States, any chartered
20 civic club, a nonprofit corporation, part of any such organization, and the
21 Secretary of State to hold matches and exhibitions under the rules and
22 regulations prescribed by the commission.

23 (2) The commission shall have no authority to limit the number of
24 organizations or nonprofit organizations which may sponsor athletic matches
25 and exhibitions in any area of the state, nor to limit or restrict the number
26 of wrestling organizations or federations promoting or organizing wrestling
27 matches or exhibitions in the state."

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29 SECTION 4. Subchapter 3 of Chapter 19 of Title 17 is hereby amended by
30 inserting an additional section at the end thereof to read as follows:

31 "17-19-307.

32 (A) Prior to conducting any wrestling, boxing, sparring, judo, karate
33 exhibition or match or any combination thereof the promoter of the event shall
34 file notice with the Arkansas Athletic Commission of his intent to hold the
35 event.

1 (B) In an amateur event where there are no purses, notification of the
2 event shall be filed with the Athletic Commission, as well as the authority
3 granted from the recognized Amateur Associations fifteen (15) days prior to
4 the event.

5 (C) Any new amateur associations wishing to be sanctioned in Arkansas
6 must make application to the Athletic Commission.

7 (D) Any promotor wishing to obtain a permit for a professional event
8 (one in which a purse is paid) must submit all necessary forms and a copy of
9 the rules to be used to the Athletic Commission at least two (2) weeks prior
10 to the date of the commission's quarterly meeting and at least sixty (60) days
11 prior to the planned event. The commission shall have the responsibility of
12 reviewing rules for and issuing promoters licenses for approved events when
13 conducted for purses.

14 (E) Any promoter wishing to conduct an event in which a purse is paid
15 must have on file with the commission insurance protecting the participants or
16 a fifty thousand dollar (\$50,000) bond naming the *Arkansas Athletic Commission*
17 as obligee two (2) weeks prior to the event date.

18 (F) Promoters license's shall expire annually on June 30. A permit
19 must be obtained for each individual show thirty (30) days prior to the
20 event."

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22 SECTION 5. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature
23 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
24 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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26 SECTION 6. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to
27 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
28 other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without
29 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
30 Act are declared to be severable.

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32 SECTION 7. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are
33 hereby repealed.

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35 /s/Hopkins

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