

Act 596 of the 1989 Regular Session.

Act 596

HB1637

By: Representative Matthews

"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE TITLE 17, CHAPTER 19, SUBCHAPTER 3, TO PERMIT NON-PROFIT CORPORATIONS TO SPONSOR ATHLETIC EVENTS REGULATED BY THE ARKANSAS ATHLETIC COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 17-19-301 (a) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(a) Matches and exhibitions involving wrestling, boxing, sparring, karate, judo, or any combinations thereof which are conducted for purses or where an admission fee is charged are authorized by this subchapter. However, all such matches and exhibitions shall be sponsored by and held under the auspices of a patriotic organization chartered by authority of a special act of the Congress of the United States, a chartered civic club, a non-profit corporation, or the Secretary of State as provided in subdivision (b) (1) of this section. The matches or exhibitions shall be conducted only in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter and acts amendatory or supplemental hereto and in accordance with rules and regulations of the State Athletic Commission."

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 17-19-302 (a) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(a) The commission shall permit any patriotic organization chartered by a special act of the Congress of the United States, any chartered civic club, a non-profit corporation, or part of any such organization to hold matches and exhibitions under the rules and regulations prescribed by the commission.

(1) The commission shall have no authority to limit the number of organizations or non-profit organizations which may sponsor athletic matches and exhibitions in any area of the state, nor to limit or restrict the number of wrestling organizations or federations promoting or organizing wrestling matches or exhibitions in the state;

(2) If there is no qualified patriotic organization or civic club which wishes to sponsor such matches and exhibitions in any city or town or any particular area of the state, the Secretary of State may sponsor these activities in such city, town, or area."

SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that this law is necessary to continue a tradition that until recently permitted non-profit corporations to utilize athletic events as fund raisers; that the public health welfare and safety is dependent upon the immediate enactment of this bill upon its passage. Therefore, an emergency is

hereby declared to exist and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: March 15, 1989

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