

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 83rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2001
4

As Engrossed: S2/7/01

A Bill

SENATE BILL 369

5 By: Senator Gwatney
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO EXEMPT BOXING ELIMINATION CONTESTS FROM THE
10 JURISDICTION OF THE STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES.
12

Subtitle

13 TO EXEMPT BOXING ELIMINATION CONTESTS
14 FROM THE JURISDICTION OF THE STATE
15 ATHLETIC COMMISSION.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 22, Subchapter 2, concerning
22 the State Athletic Commission, is amended adding an additional section to read
23 as follows:

24 17-22-208. Boxing Elimination Contests.

25 (a) This chapter does not apply to boxing elimination contests in which
26 all of the following apply:

27 (1) The contestants compete for prizes only in elimination
28 contests and are not also professional boxers competing in four (4) or more
29 rounds of non-elimination boxing;

30 (2) Each bout is scheduled to consist of three (3) or fewer one-
31 minute rounds, with contests conducted on no more than two (2) consecutive
32 calendar days;

33 (3) Competing contestants are prohibited from boxing for more
34 than twelve (12) minutes on each contest day;

35 (4) The contestants participating in the elimination contest are
36 to be insured by the promoter for not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000)

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1 for medical and hospital expenses to be paid to the contestants to cover
2 injuries sustained in the contest, and for not less than five thousand dollars
3 (\$5,000) to be paid in accordance with the statutes of descent and
4 distribution of personal property if a contestant dies as a result injuries
5 sustained in the elimination contest;

6 (5) A licensed physician is in attendance at ringside and the
7 physician has authority to stop the contest for medical reasons;

8 (6) All contestants pass a physical examination given by a
9 licensed physician before the contest;

10 (7) A preliminary breath test is administered to each contestant
11 which indicates a blood alcohol content of two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) or
12 less; and

13 (8) The promoter conducts the elimination contest in compliance
14 with the following:

15 (A) A contestant who has lost by a technical knockout is
16 not permitted to compete again for a period of thirty (30) calendar days or
17 until the contestant has submitted to the promoter the results of a physical
18 examination equivalent to that required of professional boxers;

19 (B)(i) The ringside physician examines a contestant who has
20 been knocked out in an elimination contest or whose fight has been stopped by
21 the referee because the contestant received hard blows to the head that made
22 the contestant defenseless or incapable of continuing immediately after the
23 knockout or stoppage;

24 (ii) The ringside physician may recommend post-fight
25 neurological examinations, which may include computerized axial tomography
26 scans or magnetic resonance imaging, to be performed on the contestant
27 immediately after the contestant leaves the location of the contest;

28 (iii) The promoter shall not permit the contestant to
29 compete until a physician has certified that the contestant is fit to compete;

30 (iv) If the physician recommends further neurological
31 examinations, the promoter shall not permit the contestant to compete until
32 the promoter receives copies of examination reports demonstrating that the
33 contestant is fit to compete;

34 (C)(i) The promoter shall require that a contestant who has
35 sustained a severe injury or knockout in an elimination contest be examined by
36 a physician;

1 (ii) The promoter shall not permit the contestant to
2 compete until the physician has certified that the contestant has fully
3 recovered;

4 (D) The promoter shall not permit a contestant to compete
5 in an elimination contest for a period of not less than sixty (60) days if the
6 contestant has been knocked out or has received excessive hard blows to the
7 head that required the fight to be stopped;

8 (E) A contestant who has been knocked out twice in a period
9 of three (3) months or who has had excessive head blows causing a fight to be
10 stopped shall not be permitted by a promoter to participate in an elimination
11 contest for a period of not less than one hundred and twenty (120) days after
12 the second knockout or stoppage;

13 (F) A contestant who has been knocked out or had excessive
14 hard blows to the head causing a fight to be stopped three (3) times
15 consecutively in a period of twelve (12) months shall not be permitted by a
16 promoter to participate in an elimination contest for a period of one (1) year
17 after the third knockout; and

18 (G) Before resuming competition after any of the periods of
19 rest prescribed in subdivisions (D), (E), and (F) of this subdivision (8), a
20 promoter shall require the contestant to produce a certification by a
21 physician stating that the contestant is fit to take part in an elimination
22 contest.

23 (b) As part of the physical examination given before the contest, the
24 licensed physician or other trained person shall administer a preliminary
25 breath test in compliance with standards imposed in rules promulgated by the
26 Department of Arkansas State Police regarding equipment calibration and
27 methods of administration.

28 (c)(1) The promoter shall keep a log of preliminary breath test results
29 of contestants on file at its place of business for at least three (3) years
30 after the date of administration of the test.

31 (2) These results shall be made available to law enforcement
32 officials upon request.

33 (d) An elimination contest held pursuant to subsection (a) is not
34 considered to be in violation of the law.

35 (e) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty
36 of a Class A misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine not to exceed one

1 thousand dollars (\$1,000).

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/s/ Gwatney

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