

104TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 187

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 1, 1995

Referred to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## AN ACT

To provide for the safety of journeymen boxers, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Professional Boxing  
5 Safety Act of 1995”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 For purposes of this Act, the following definitions  
3 shall apply:

4 (1) **BOXER.**—The term “boxer” means a person  
5 who participates in a professional boxing match.

6 (2) **LICENSEE.**—The term “licensee” means an  
7 individual who serves as a trainer, second, or cut  
8 man for a professional boxer.

9 (3) **MANAGER.**—The term “manager” means a  
10 person or business that helps arrange professional  
11 boxing matches for a boxer, and that serves as an  
12 advisor or representative of a boxer in a professional  
13 capacity.

14 (4) **MATCHMAKER.**—The term “matchmaker”  
15 means a person or business that proposes, selects,  
16 and arranges the boxers to participate in a profes-  
17 sional boxing match.

18 (5) **PROFESSIONAL BOXING MATCH.**—The term  
19 “professional boxing match”—

20 (A) means a boxing contest held in the  
21 United States between individuals for com-  
22 pensation or a prize; and

23 (B) does not include any amateur boxing  
24 match.

25 (6) **PROMOTER.**—The term “promoter” means  
26 a person or business that organizes, holds, adver-

1 tises, or otherwise conducts a professional boxing  
2 match.

3 (7) STATE BOXING COMMISSION.—The term  
4 “State boxing commission” means a State agency  
5 with authority to regulate professional boxing.

6 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

7 The purposes of this Act are—

8 (1) to improve and expand the system of safety  
9 precautions that protects the welfare of professional  
10 boxers; and

11 (2) to assist State boxing commissions to pro-  
12 vide proper oversight for the professional boxing in-  
13 dustry in the United States.

14 **SEC. 4. PROFESSIONAL BOXING MATCHES.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—

16 (1) REQUIREMENTS.—Subject to subsection (b),  
17 a professional boxing match may be held in the  
18 United States only if—

19 (A)(i) the State in which the professional  
20 boxing match is to be held has a State boxing  
21 commission;

22 (ii) the State has entered into a contract  
23 with a private organization to carry out the du-  
24 ties of a State boxing commission in accordance  
25 with the applicable requirements of this Act; or

1           (iii) the promoter who seeks to put on a  
2 professional boxing match in a State that does  
3 not have a boxing commission has entered into  
4 an agreement with the chief administrative offi-  
5 cer of a State that has a boxing commission to  
6 oversee the boxing match;

7           (B) a licensed practicing physician, whose  
8 services are paid by the promoter, is continu-  
9 ously present at the ringside of the professional  
10 boxing match;

11           (C) the promoter has, in accordance with  
12 this subsection, provided—

13                 (i) for a physical examination of each  
14 boxer who participates in the professional  
15 boxing match by a licensed practicing phy-  
16 sician, to ensure that each such boxer is  
17 physically fit to compete in the boxing  
18 match; and

19                 (ii)(I) for an ambulance to be continu-  
20 ously present at the site of the boxing  
21 match; or

22                 (II) if applicable, notice in accordance  
23 with paragraph (2); and

1 (D) the State boxing commission has es-  
2 tablished procedures to carry out sections 5  
3 through 8.

4 (2) AMBULANCE SERVICE.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which  
6 an applicable State law does not require that an  
7 ambulance be continuously present in the imme-  
8 diate vicinity of a professional boxing match, if  
9 the promoter for that boxing match does not  
10 choose to provide for such an ambulance, the  
11 promoter shall, not later than 24 hours before  
12 that boxing match, notify the nearest available  
13 ambulance service (including any appropriate  
14 emergency medical service) of that boxing  
15 match.

16 (B) COSTS.—The promoter for a profes-  
17 sional boxing match shall pay the cost of any  
18 ambulance service provided in conjunction with  
19 the conduct of that boxing match.

20 (b) REQUIREMENTS FOR PRIVATIZATION.—

21 (1) MONITORING AND EVALUATION.—If a State  
22 enters into a contract with a private organization to  
23 carry out the duties of a State boxing commission  
24 specified in this Act, the State shall provide for—

1 (A) continual monitoring of the activities  
 2 of the private organization that are the subject  
 3 of the contract; and

4 (B) regular evaluations by the State of the  
 5 activities referred to in subparagraph (A).

6 (2) CANCELLATION OF PROFESSIONAL BOXING  
 7 MATCHES.—If a State enters into a contract with a  
 8 private organization under paragraph (1), notwith-  
 9 standing that contract, the chief administrative offi-  
 10 cer of that State may cancel a professional boxing  
 11 match without consulting the private organization if  
 12 that chief administrative officer determines that—

13 (A) the private organization is not per-  
 14 forming the obligations of that organization  
 15 that are specified in the contract in a manner  
 16 that is satisfactory to the chief administrative  
 17 officer; or

18 (B) the cancellation of the professional  
 19 boxing match is necessary to protect public  
 20 health, safety, or welfare.

21 **SEC. 5. REGISTRATION.**

22 (a) REQUIREMENTS.—Each professional boxer shall  
 23 register with—

24 (1) the State boxing commission of the State in  
 25 which such boxer resides (or if the State has in ef-

1       fect a contract with a private organization described  
2       in section 4(b), that private organization); or

3           (2) in the case of a boxer who is a resident of  
4       a foreign country, or a State in which there is no  
5       State boxing commission and in which no private or-  
6       ganization is carrying out the duties of a State box-  
7       ing commission pursuant to a contract described in  
8       section 4(b), the State boxing commission of any  
9       State that has such a commission or a private orga-  
10      nization that carries out a contract described in sec-  
11      tion 4(b).

12      (b) IDENTIFICATION CARD.—

13           (1) ISSUANCE.—A State boxing commission or  
14      a private organization that carries out a contract de-  
15      scribed in section 4(b) shall issue to each profes-  
16      sional boxer who registers in accordance with sub-  
17      section (a), an identification card that contains—

18                   (A) a recent photograph of the boxer;

19                   (B) the social security number of the boxer  
20      (or, in the case of a foreign boxer, any similar  
21      citizen identification number or professional  
22      boxer number from the country of residence of  
23      the boxer); and

24                   (C) each personal identification number as-  
25      signed to the boxer by a boxing registry cer-

1           tified by the Association of Boxing Commis-  
2           sioners.

3           (2) RENEWAL.—Each professional boxer shall  
4           renew his or her identification card at least once  
5           every 3 years.

6           (3) PRESENTATION.—Each professional boxer  
7           shall present his or her identification card to the ap-  
8           propriate State boxing commission or private organi-  
9           zation that carries out a contract described in sec-  
10          tion 4(b) not later than the time of the weigh-in for  
11          a professional boxing match.

12          (c) RELATION TO STATE LAW.—Nothing in this sec-  
13          tion shall be construed as preventing a State from apply-  
14          ing additional registration requirements.

15   **SEC. 6. REVIEW.**

16          Each State boxing commission and each private orga-  
17          nization that carries out a contract described in section  
18          4(b) shall establish procedures—

19                (1) to evaluate the professional records of each  
20                boxer participating in a boxing match in the State;

21                (2) to ensure that no boxer is permitted to box  
22                while under suspension from any State boxing com-  
23                mission due to injury or other medical-related rea-  
24                son, including—

1 (A) a recent knockout, injury, or require-  
2 ment for a medical procedure;

3 (B) failure of a drug test;

4 (C) poor boxing skills, or the inability to  
5 safely compete; or

6 (D) the use of false aliases, or falsifying,  
7 or attempting to falsify, official identification  
8 cards or documents; and

9 (3) to ensure that if such commission (or pri-  
10 vate organization) is considering permitting a boxer,  
11 promoter, manager, or other licensee to participate  
12 in a professional boxing match while the individual  
13 is under suspension from any State for any reason  
14 other than a reason listed in paragraph (2), such  
15 commission (or private organization) shall notify and  
16 consult with the chief administrative officer of the  
17 State that ordered the suspension prior to the grant  
18 of approval for such individual to participate in that  
19 professional boxing match.

20 **SEC. 7. INSURANCE.**

21 Each State, acting through the State boxing commis-  
22 sion of the State or private organization that carries out  
23 the regulation of professional boxing matches for that  
24 State (if the State has in effect a contract described in  
25 section 4(b) with that private organization), shall require

1 that a promoter provide insurance coverage, in an amount  
2 determined by the appropriate State official or entity, for  
3 each boxer who participates in a professional boxing match  
4 that the promoter is involved in conducting to cover an  
5 injury sustained while engaged in that match.

6 **SEC. 8. REPORTING.**

7 (a) **BOXING MATCH RESULTS.**—Not later than 48  
8 business hours (excluding Saturdays and Sundays) after  
9 the conclusion of a professional boxing match, the results  
10 of such boxing match shall be reported—

11 (1) to each professional boxing registry certified  
12 by the Association of Boxing Commissions; and

13 (2) to the Florida State Athletic Commission.

14 (b) **SUSPENSIONS.**—Not later than 48 business hours  
15 (excluding Saturdays and Sundays) after a State boxing  
16 commission orders the suspension of a boxer, promoter,  
17 or manager, such suspension shall be reported—

18 (1) to each professional boxing registry certified  
19 by the Association of Boxing Commissions; and

20 (2) to the Florida State Athletic Commission.

21 (c) **ALTERNATE REPORTING ENTITY.**—If the State  
22 of Florida ceases, for any reason, to publish and circulate  
23 a national suspension list at no cost to other States on  
24 a frequent basis, the Association of Boxing Commissions  
25 shall select a different public or private entity to volun-

1 tarily undertake to compile and circulate a suspension list  
2 to all State boxing commissions at no cost to the States.

3 **SEC. 9. ENFORCEMENT.**

4 (a) INJUNCTIONS.—Whenever a United States Attor-  
5 ney in a State has reasonable cause to believe that a per-  
6 son or entity is engaged in a violation of this Act in such  
7 State, the United States Attorney may bring a civil action  
8 in the appropriate district court of the United States re-  
9 questing such relief, including a permanent or temporary  
10 injunction, restraining order, or other order, against the  
11 person or entity, as the United States Attorney determines  
12 to be necessary to restrain the person or entity from con-  
13 tinuing to engage in, or to sanction, a professional boxing  
14 match in violation of this Act.

15 (b) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—

16 (1) MANAGERS, PROMOTERS, MATCHMAKERS,  
17 AND LICENSEES.—Each manager, promoter, match-  
18 maker, and licensee who knowingly and willfully vio-  
19 lates any provision of this Act shall, upon conviction,  
20 be imprisoned for not more than 1 year or fined not  
21 more than \$20,000, or both.

22 (2) BOXERS.—Any professional boxer who  
23 knowingly and willfully violates any provision of this  
24 Act shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than  
25 \$1,000.

1 (c) DESIGNATED UNITED STATES ATTORNEY.—The  
2 Attorney General of the United States shall, for each  
3 State, designate a United States Attorney that has an of-  
4 fice in that State, to serve, in consultation with the State  
5 boxing commission of that State (or, in the absence of a  
6 State boxing commission, the appropriate official of the  
7 Association of Boxing Commissions)—

8 (1) as a liaison to respond to allegations con-  
9 cerning violations of this Act; and

10 (2) as a coordinator for any enforcement activ-  
11 ity conducted pursuant to this Act that is carried  
12 out by any United States Attorney in that State.

13 **SEC. 10. NOTIFICATION OF DESIGNATED UNITED STATES**  
14 **ATTORNEY.**

15 Each promoter that intends to hold a professional  
16 boxing match in a State that does not have a State boxing  
17 commission shall, not later than 14 days before the in-  
18 tended date of that event, provide written notification to  
19 the United States Attorney designated under section 9(c)  
20 for that State. That notification shall contain—

21 (1) assurances that, with respect to that boxing  
22 match, all applicable requirements of this Act will be  
23 met;

24 (2) the name, State of residence, and telephone  
25 number of the official of a State boxing commission

1 of another State who will oversee the match pursu-  
2 ant to an agreement described in section  
3 4(a)(1)(A)(iii);

4 (3) the name of any individual who, at the time  
5 of the submission of the notification—

6 (A) is under suspension from a State box-  
7 ing commission; and

8 (B) will be involved in organizing or par-  
9 ticipating in the event; and

10 (4) with respect to any individual listed under  
11 paragraph (3), the State boxing commission to  
12 which a suspension described in paragraph (3)(A) is  
13 in effect.

14 **SEC. 11. CONSULTATION WITH STATE BOXING OFFICIALS**

15 **BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.**

16 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment  
17 of this Act, and annually thereafter, to exchange informa-  
18 tion concerning the implementation and enforcement of  
19 this Act and to improve the safety and integrity of profes-  
20 sional boxing as a sport, the Attorney General of the Unit-  
21 ed States shall consult with—

22 (1) the appropriate official of the Association of  
23 Boxing Commissions;

24 (2) tribal organizations (as that term is defined  
25 in section 4(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and

1 Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(l)) that  
2 regulate professional boxing matches; and

3 (3) private organizations that assist in the reg-  
4 ulation of professional boxing matches.

5 **SEC. 12. PENSION STUDY.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor shall con-  
7 duct a study on the feasibility and cost of a national pen-  
8 sion system for professional boxers, including potential  
9 funding sources.

10 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
11 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall sub-  
12 mit a report to the Congress on the findings of the study  
13 conducted pursuant to subsection (a).

14 **SEC. 13. PROFESSIONAL BOXING MATCHES CONDUCTED ON**  
15 **INDIAN RESERVATIONS.**

16 (a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the  
17 following definitions shall apply:

18 (1) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe”  
19 has the same meaning as in section 4(e) of the In-  
20 dian Self-Determination and Education Assistance  
21 Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)).

22 (2) RESERVATION.—The term “reservation”  
23 means the geographically defined area over which a  
24 tribal organization exercises governmental jurisdic-  
25 tion.

1           (3) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term “tribal  
2 organization” has the same meaning as in section  
3 4(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education  
4 Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(l)).

5 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—

6           (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other  
7 provision of law, a tribal organization of an Indian  
8 tribe may, upon the initiative of the tribal organiza-  
9 tion—

10           (A) regulate professional boxing matches  
11 held within the reservation under the jurisdic-  
12 tion of that tribal organization; and

13           (B) carry out that regulation or enter into  
14 a contract with a private organization to carry  
15 out that regulation.

16           (2) STANDARDS AND LICENSING.—If a tribal  
17 organization regulates boxing matches pursuant to  
18 paragraph (1), the tribal organization shall, by tribal  
19 ordinance or resolution, establish and provide for the  
20 implementation of health and safety standards, li-  
21 censing requirements, and other requirements relat-  
22 ing to the conduct of professional boxing matches  
23 that are at least equivalent to—

1 (A) the otherwise applicable standards and  
2 requirements of each State in which the res-  
3 ervation is located; or

4 (B) if no State in which the reservation is  
5 located has established any such standard or re-  
6 quirement—

7 (i) the standards and requirements of  
8 any other State that has established a  
9 State boxing commission that carries out  
10 the requirements of this Act; or

11 (ii) the most recently published ver-  
12 sion of the recommended regulatory guide-  
13 lines issued by the Association of Boxing  
14 Commissions.

Passed the Senate October 31, 1995.

Attest: KELLY D. JOHNSTON,  
*Secretary.*

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