

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 4624
OFFERED BY MR. WALBERG OF MICHIGAN**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Muhammad Ali Amer-
3 ican Boxing Revival Act of 2026”.

4 SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

5 The purposes of this Act are—

6 (1) to provide increased choice and opportunity
7 to professional boxers by allowing a professional
8 boxer to choose to participate in the alternative sys-
9 tem offered by a unified boxing organization; and

10 (2) to further enhance safety precautions that
11 protect the well-being of professional boxers.

12 SEC. 3. UNIFIED BOXING ORGANIZATIONS.

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Professional Boxing Safety
14 Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended by add-
15 ing at the end the following:

16 “SEC. 24. UNIFIED BOXING ORGANIZATIONS.

17 “(a) ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM FOR COMPLIANCE WITH
18 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ACT.—A unified boxing or-

1 ganization (in this section referred to as a ‘UBO’) shall
2 be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of
3 this Act if the UBO meets the requirements of section 5
4 and the conditions of this section with respect to—

5 “(1) each boxer under contract with the UBO;
6 and

7 “(2) each professional boxing match organized
8 by the UBO (in this section referred to as a ‘covered
9 match’).

10 “(b) SAFETY AND INDUSTRY STANDARDS; MEDICAL
11 EXAMINATIONS.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this section
13 is that a UBO meets the requirements of para-
14 graphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, in addition to
15 the requirements of section 5.

16 “(2) SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO KNOCK-
17 OUTS.—In the case of a boxer who suffers a knock-
18 out during a covered match, a UBO shall require
19 that (in addition to the examinations required for
20 such boxer pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B)(iii)) the
21 boxer undergo the applicable examinations described
22 in section 5(a)(1)(B)(iii) relating to brain health
23 prior to participating in the boxer’s next covered
24 match.

1 “(3) SUPPLEMENTAL PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS
2 FOR BOXERS WHO ARE 40 YEARS OF AGE OR
3 OLDER.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A UBO shall ensure
5 that a boxer who participates in a covered
6 match at the age of 40 or older undergoes (in
7 addition to the physical examinations required
8 pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B)(iii) and para-
9 graph (2) of this subsection, as applicable) a
10 supplemental physical examination conducted
11 by a licensed physician that affirms the fitness
12 of the boxer to safely participate in a covered
13 match.

14 “(B) ELEMENTS.—A supplemental phys-
15 ical examination under subparagraph (A) shall
16 include each of the following:

17 “(i) A chest X-ray.
18 “(ii) A comprehensive metabolic panel
19 blood test.
20 “(iii) A urinalysis to measure the
21 overall health condition of the boxer.

22 “(C) FREQUENCY.—The supplemental
23 physical examination to be conducted under
24 subparagraph (A) shall occur at least annually,
25 except that the chest X-ray required under sub-

1 paragraph (B)(i) shall occur at least once every
2 6 years.

3 “(c) PROVISION OF MEDICAL CARE DURING
4 MATCHES.—

5 “(1) AMBULANCES.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this
7 section is that a UBO provides (in addition to
8 the ambulance required to be provided by such
9 UBO pursuant to section 5(a)(2)) for at least
10 2 additional ambulances to be continuously
11 present on site of a covered match.

12 “(B) USE OF AMBULANCES.—An ambu-
13 lance provided for a covered match by such
14 UBO shall be for the exclusive use of any boxer
15 participating in the match.

16 “(C) REPLACEMENT AMBULANCE.—If an
17 ambulance provided for a match by such UBO
18 leaves the site of the match, the UBO shall en-
19 sure the ambulance is replaced with another
20 ambulance.

21 “(2) RINGSIDE PRESENCE.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this
23 section is that a UBO provides (in addition to
24 the licensed physician required to be provided
25 by such UBO pursuant to section 5(a)(3)) at

1 least 3 additional licensed physicians who shall
2 each be continuously present at ringside during
3 a covered match.

4 “(B) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Be-
5 ginning on the date that is 2 years after the
6 date of enactment of the Muhammad Ali Amer-
7 ican Boxing Revival Act of 2026, each physi-
8 cian required to be provided by a UBO shall
9 have a certification obtained through a certifi-
10 cation program administered by the Association
11 of Boxing Commissions in partnership with the
12 Association of Ring-side Physicians (or any suc-
13 cessor organization).

14 “(d) SUPPORT SERVICES FOR BOXERS UNDER CON-
15 TRACT WITH A UBO.—A condition of this section is that,
16 during the period in which a boxer is under contract with
17 a UBO, the UBO shall ensure such boxer has each of the
18 following:

19 “(1) EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES FOR TRAIN-
20 ING AND REHABILITATION.—The boxer has access to
21 equipment and facilities that are operated by the
22 UBO for training and rehabilitation.

23 “(2) INSURANCE POLICY.—In addition to the
24 health insurance provided to the boxer pursuant to
25 section 5(a)(4), the boxer has in effect an insurance

1 policy that provides medical coverage for any injury
2 sustained by the boxer during the period of training
3 for a covered match.

4 “(3) MEDICAL COORDINATOR.—A medical coor-
5 dinator is assigned to the boxer to assist the boxer
6 with satisfying medical and licensing requirements
7 related to the participation of the boxer in a covered
8 match.

9 “(e) COMPREHENSIVE ANTI-DOPING PROGRAM.—

10 “(1) REQUIREMENT.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this
12 section is that a UBO has in effect a com-
13 prehensive anti-doping program that includes
14 the testing and requirements related to such
15 testing under this subsection.

16 “(B) LIST OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES
17 AND PENALTIES.—A UBO shall, on an annual
18 basis, publish, and make available to the public,
19 a list that identifies, with respect to the pre-
20 ceding year—

21 “(i) each substance tested for under
22 the comprehensive anti-doping program of
23 the UBO; and

24 “(ii) each penalty imposed on a boxer
25 under paragraph (6).

1 “(2) IN-COMPETITION TESTING.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The UBO shall ensure
3 that testing is conducted, in accordance with
4 paragraph (5), for at least half the boxers par-
5 ticipating in each covered match organized by
6 such UBO for an event.7 “(B) TIMING.—Testing required under
8 subparagraph (A) shall—9 “(i) occur during the period beginning
10 on the date of a weigh-in for a covered
11 match and ending on the date of the
12 match; and13 “(ii) determine whether a boxer is
14 positive or negative for each substance pro-
15 hibited by—16 “(I) the boxing commission of the
17 State in which the match is held; or18 “(II) in the case of a covered
19 match held within a reservation (as
20 defined by section 21), the tribal orga-
21 nization (as defined by section 21 and
22 that meets the requirements of section
23 21) regulating the match.24 “(3) NO-NOTICE TESTING.—In addition to the
25 testing required under paragraph (2), during the pe-

1 riod in which a boxer is under contract with a UBO,
2 the UBO may conduct testing, with no advance no-
3 tice to the boxer and in accordance with paragraph
4 (5), to determine whether such boxer is positive or
5 negative for each substance prohibited by the UBO.

6 “(4) SUBSTANCES PROHIBITED BY UBO.—The
7 UBO shall prohibit any substance described in sec-
8 tion 7(a)(2)(C)(ii), except that the UBO may elect
9 to not test a boxer participating in a covered match
10 for any substance that is not prohibited by the box-
11 ing commission of the State in which the match is
12 being held or the tribal organization described in
13 paragraph (2)(B)(ii)(II) that is regulating the
14 match.

15 “(5) ADMINISTRATION OF TESTS.—An inde-
16 pendent third-party shall conduct the testing under
17 paragraphs (2) and (3), which shall include—

18 “(A) carrying out each such test;
19 “(B) determining the result of each such
20 test; and

21 “(C) reporting a positive result of such a
22 test to—

23 “(i) the UBO concerned;
24 “(ii) the boxing commission of the
25 State in which a covered match is held or

5 “(6) PENALTIES.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A UBO shall imple-
7 ment any penalty decided—

21 “(B) ASSESSMENT FOR PENALTIES.—In
22 imposing a penalty on a boxer for whom the
23 independent third-party reports a positive test
24 result under paragraph (2) or (3), the boxing
25 commission, the Association of Boxing Commis-

1 sions, or the independent third-party described
2 in subparagraph (A) shall consider—

3 “(i) the seriousness of the positive
4 test result in relation to the participation
5 of the boxer in a covered match; and

6 “(ii) the degree to which the boxer is
7 at fault for the positive test result.

8 “(7) CONTRACT REQUIREMENT.—A UBO shall
9 include in any contract entered into between the
10 UBO and a boxer regarding participation in covered
11 matches such terms and conditions as may be nec-
12 essary to require the boxer to submit to testing
13 under this subsection during the period of the con-
14 tract.

15 “(f) BOXING CONDUCT POLICY.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this section
17 is that a UBO implements and ensures compliance
18 with a comprehensive boxing conduct policy that
19 prohibits a boxer, or any covered individual, who is
20 directly involved with or participates in a covered
21 match from—

22 “(A) placing a bet or wager, directly or
23 through a third party, on the match; and

24 “(B) sharing non-public information with a
25 third party that is material to the performance

1 of a boxer participating in the match or the
2 outcome of the match for the purpose of assist-
3 ing the third party in placing a bet or wager on
4 the match.

5 “(2) COMPLIANCE.—A UBO shall implement
6 and ensure compliance with procedures for moni-
7 toring and enforcing compliance with the boxing
8 conduct policy implemented under paragraph (1).

9 “(3) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this
10 subsection, the term ‘covered individual’ means, with
11 respect to a boxer who participates in a covered
12 match, any of the following:

13 “(A) An adult living in the same household
14 as the boxer.

15 “(B) A coach, manager, or athletic trainer
16 of the boxer.

17 “(C) A physician or other medical profes-
18 sional who provides services to the boxer.

19 “(D) An employee, officer, or director of
20 the UBO concerned.

21 “(E) An agent of any such person who is
22 directly involved with or participates in a cov-
23 ered match.

24 “(g) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—A condition of this
25 section is that a UBO implements prohibitions against the

1 officers or employees of the UBO, or any representative
2 of the UBO, engaging in any of the following:

3 “(1) Any direct or indirect financial interest in
4 the management of a boxer in relation to the partici-
5 pation of the boxer in a covered match.

6 “(2) Employment of, or making a payment to,
7 a manager who represents a boxer who participates
8 in a covered match, except—

9 “(A) when the boxer acts as the boxer’s
10 own manager; or

11 “(B) for any consideration paid by the
12 UBO to the manager under the contract be-
13 tween the manager and the boxer.

14 “(3) Receiving or requesting from a boxer the
15 payment of a fee related to—

16 “(A) the ranking of the boxer; and

17 “(B) the participation of the boxer in a
18 covered match—

19 “(i) including any fee related to a
20 boxer participating in a covered match in
21 which the boxer will be challenging a
22 champion or defending a championship, in-
23 cluding any award; and

24 “(ii) excluding any cost related to a
25 boxer reimbursing a UBO for reasonable

1 expenses incurred by the UBO on behalf of
2 the boxer in relation to the participation of
3 the boxer in a covered match, including
4 any medical expense and travel expense.

5 “(h) BOXING COMMISSIONS.—

6 “(1) PROHIBITION.—A condition of this section
7 is that a covered match may not be held—

8 “(A) in a State without a boxing commis-
9 sion; or

10 “(B) within a reservation (as defined by
11 section 21) under the jurisdiction of a tribal or-
12 ganization (as defined by section 21) that does
13 not meet the requirements of section 21.

14 “(2) JUDGES AND REFEREES.—A condition of
15 this section is that a UBO meets the requirements
16 of section 16.

17 “(i) FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), a
19 condition of this section is that a UBO is financially
20 responsible for the costs of meeting the requirements
21 of section 5 and the conditions of this section.

22 “(2) COST OF ANY DEDUCTIBLE.— The cost of
23 any deductible for any health insurance required to
24 be provided by the UBO for a boxer shall be the fi-
25 nancial responsibility of the boxer.

1 “(j) FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION FILING.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this section
3 is that, on the date in which a UBO intends to claim
4 status as a UBO for purposes of this section, the
5 UBO submits to the Federal Trade Commission and
6 to the Association of Boxing Commissions informa-
7 tion regarding the UBO, including the following:8 “(A) The State in which the UBO is incor-
9 porated.

10 “(B) The business address of the UBO.

11 “(C) The website of the UBO.

12 “(2) FORMAT; UPDATES.—To meet the condi-
13 tion of this subsection, the UBO shall—14 “(A) provide the information described in
15 paragraph (1) in—

16 “(i) writing; and

17 “(ii) for any document greater than 2
18 pages in length, electronic form; and19 “(B) promptly notify the Federal Trade
20 Commission of any material change in the in-
21 formation submitted.22 “(3) FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION TO MAKE
23 INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC.—The Federal
24 Trade Commission—

1 “(A) shall make information received
2 under this subsection available to the public;
3 and

4 “(B) may assess the UBO a fee to offset
5 the costs the Commission incurs in processing
6 the information and in making the information
7 available to the public.

8 “(4) INTERNET ALTERNATIVE.—In lieu of sub-
9 mitting the information described in paragraph (1)
10 to the Federal Trade Commission, a UBO may pro-
11 vide the information to the public by maintaining a
12 website on the internet that meets the following re-
13 quirements:

14 “(A) Is readily accessible by the general
15 public using generally available search engines.

16 “(B) For full access to the information,
17 does not require a password or payment of a
18 fee.

19 “(C) Contains the information described in
20 paragraph (1) in a format that is easy to search
21 and use.

22 “(D) Is updated when there is a material
23 change in the information.

24 “(k) RELATIONSHIP WITH STATE LAW.—Nothing in
25 this section shall prohibit a State from adopting or enforce-

1 ing supplemental laws or regulations not inconsistent with
2 this section, or criminal, civil, or administrative fines for
3 violations of such laws or regulations.”.

4 (b) ENFORCEMENT.—Section 18(b) of the Profes-
5 sional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6309(b)) is
6 amended by adding at the end the following:

7 “(5) UNIFIED BOXING ORGANIZATIONS.—Any
8 officer or employee of a unified boxing organization
9 who willfully and knowingly violates, or coerces or
10 causes any other person to violate, section 24 shall,
11 upon conviction, be imprisoned for not more than 1
12 year or fined not more than \$20,000, or both.”.

13 (c) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2 of the Professional
14 Boxing Safety Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6301) is amend-
15 ed—

16 (1) by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the
17 following:

18 “(7) PHYSICIAN.—The term ‘physician’ means
19 a doctor of medicine, with a degree of Doctor of
20 Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, who is
21 legally authorized to practice medicine by the State
22 in which the physician performs such function or ac-
23 tion.”; and

24 (2) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(16) UNIFIED BOXING ORGANIZATION.—The
2 term ‘unified boxing organization’ or ‘UBO’ means
3 an association, a league, or a centralized industry
4 organization in the private sector that—

5 “(A) organizes a professional boxing match
6 in a system in which a boxer under contract
7 with such association, league, or centralized in-
8 dustry organization competes against another
9 such boxer pursuant to unified rules; and

10 “(B) without reliance on a sanctioning or-
11 ganization operating independently of such as-
12 sociation, league, or centralized industry organi-
13 zation, implements a system for title belts and
14 ranking for boxers under contract with such as-
15 sociation, league, or centralized industry organi-
16 zation.”.

17 **SEC. 4. BOXING INDUSTRY STANDARDS.**

18 (a) BOXER SAFETY AND INDUSTRY STANDARDS.—
19 Section 5 of the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996
20 (15 U.S.C. 6304) is amended—

21 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “**AND**
22 **INDUSTRY**” after “**SAFETY**”;

23 (2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—
24 (A) by striking “No person” and inserting
25 the following:

1 “(a) HEALTH AND SAFETY OF BOXERS.—No per-
2 son”; and

3 (B) by inserting “, at a minimum,” after
4 “that provides”;

5 (3) in subsection (a), as so designated—

6 (A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as
7 follows:

8 “(1) PHYSICAL EXAMINATION.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A physical examina-
10 tion of each boxer by a physician certifying
11 whether or not the boxer is physically fit to
12 safely compete, copies of which shall be pro-
13 vided to the boxing commission by such physi-
14 cian.

15 “(B) MINIMAL MEDICAL REQUIRE-
16 MENTS.—

1 ten opinion that the result of such exam-
2 ination does not contraindicate that a
3 boxer is able to compete safely.

“Required examinations	Validity
Complete physical examination, including blood work	1 year
Dilated eye examination	1 year
Heart examinations (Electrocardiogram, and for a boxer aged 40 years or older, a stress test)	1 year
Antibody tests (Negative Human Immunodeficiency Virus antibody, Hepatitis B antigen, and Hepatitis C antibody)	6 months
Brain health examinations (For a boxer aged 40 years or older, a magnetic resonance image (MRI) scan and a magnetic resonance angiography (MRA) of the brain; for a boxer under age 40, an MRI of the brain or neurologic examination conducted by a neurologist)	1 year
In the case of a female fighter, a pregnancy test	14 days”;

7 (B) in paragraph (2)—
8 (i) by striking “Except” and inserting
9 “AMBULANCE; EQUIPMENT.—Except”; and
10 (ii) by striking “an ambulance or
11 medical personnel” and inserting “an am-
12 bulance and medical personnel”;
13 (C) by amending paragraph (3) to read as
14 follows:
15 “(3) PHYSICIAN.—A physician continuously
16 present at ringside who, beginning on the date that
17 is 2 years after the date of enactment of the Mu-
18 hammad Ali American Boxing Revival Act of 2026,

1 shall have a certification obtained through a certifi-
2 cation program administered by the Association of
3 Boxing Commissions in partnership with the Asso-
4 ciation of Ring-side Physicians, or any successor or-
5 ganization.”; and

6 (D) by amending paragraph (4) to read as
7 follows:

8 “(4) INSURANCE.—For each boxer, health in-
9 surance that—

10 “(A) provides a minimum of \$50,000 in
11 medical coverage for any injuries sustained in
12 the match and \$15,000 in accidental death cov-
13 erage for any fatality arising from such match;
14 and

15 “(B) with respect to any premium, is not
16 the financial responsibility of the boxer.”;

17 (4) by adding after subsection (a), as des-
18 ignated by paragraph (2) of this subsection, the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(b) MINIMUM PAYMENT TO BOXERS.—A promoter
21 or unified boxing organization shall pay a minimum of
22 \$200 to each boxer for each round in a match in which
23 the boxer participates.”; and

24 (5) by adding at the end the following:

25 “(c) SIMPLIFICATION OF TITLES.—

1 “(1) SINGULAR TITLES.—A sanctioning organi-
2 zation or unified boxing organization shall award
3 only 1 championship title for each weight class.

4 “(2) INTERIM TITLES.—A sanctioning organiza-
5 tion or unified boxing organization may not award
6 an interim championship title except in the case of
7 an injury or illness to a reigning titleholder, refusal
8 or inability by the reigning title holder to defend his
9 title, or for reasons beyond the control of the boxer,
10 including inability to travel.”.

11 (b) REVIEW.—Section 7 of the Professional Boxing
12 Safety Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6306) is amended—

13 (1) subsection (a) is amended by adding at the
14 end the following:

15 “(5) Procedures to ensure that—

16 “(A) drug tests shall be administered—

17 “(i) for any title bout;

18 “(ii) at random for all other bouts,
19 provided that tests are administered for
20 not less than 50 percent of such other
21 bouts; and

22 “(B) such drug tests shall screen, at a
23 minimum, for any substance listed on the most
24 current edition of ‘The World Anti-Doping
25 Code, The Prohibited List International Stand-

1 ard' of the World Anti-Doping Agency, except
2 that a boxing commission may elect not to
3 screen for such a substance if the use of such
4 substance is not prohibited by the State in
5 which the match is being held or the tribal or-
6 ganization (as defined in section 21) that is
7 regulating the match.”.

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(c) CONSISTENT STANDARDS.—It is the sense of
10 Congress that—

11 “(1) uneven development of standards and
12 practices by boxing commissions (including tribal or-
13 ganizations in compliance with section 21) has en-
14 abled matches that would not have been authorized
15 by boxing commissions with robust standards and
16 practices, and that boxers have been seriously in-
17 jured or killed as a result;

18 “(2) the Association of Boxing Commissions (in
19 this subsection referred to as the ‘ABC’), in partner-
20 ship with the Association of Ringside Physicians, is
21 well-positioned to identify policies and practices most
22 conducive to boxer safety and wellbeing; and

23 “(3) the ABC should, accordingly, publish and
24 maintain—

1 “(A) a model legislative and regulatory
2 code for professional boxing, derived from—

3 “(i) State policies that are most pro-
4 tective of boxers’ safety, health, wellbeing,
5 and economic opportunity;

6 “(ii) rigorous sporting authority
7 guidelines, such as the USA Boxing proto-
8 cols for medical suspension; and

9 “(iii) expert consensus statements
10 from the Association of Ringside Physi-
11 cians and other sports medicine organiza-
12 tions;

13 “(B) best practices recommendations for
14 oversight of professional boxing and implemen-
15 tation of legal duties by boxing commissions;
16 and

17 “(C) an annual report card of boxing com-
18 mission conformance with such model codes and
19 best practices.”.

20 (c) JUDGES AND REFEREES.—Section 16 of the Pro-
21 fessional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6307h)
22 is amended to read as follows:

23 **“SEC. 16. JUDGES AND REFEREES.**

24 “No person may arrange, promote, organize, produce,
25 or fight in a professional boxing match unless all referees

1 and judges participating in the match have been certified

2 and approved by—

3 “(1) the boxing commission responsible for reg-
4 ulating the match in the State where the match is
5 held; or

6 “(2) the Association of Boxing Commissions.”.

7 (d) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—Section 17(c)(2)(A)
8 of the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C.
9 6308(c)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “or reasonable ex-
10 penses in connection therewith”.

11 (e) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Paragraphs (1) and
12 (3) of the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 (15
13 U.S.C. 6312(a)) are amended by striking “25 U.S.C.
14 450b” and inserting “25 U.S.C. 5304”.

15 SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION.

16 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
17 on the date of enactment of this Act, and shall apply with
18 respect to boxing matches that take place on or after the
19 date that is 30 days after such date of enactment.

