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BOXING AND WRESTLING

House Bill 4146 Sponsor: Rep. Gerald H. Law Committee: State Affairs

Complete to 3-25-91

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4146 AS INTRODUCED 2-7-91

The bill would amend the Occupational Code to delete wrestling from its licensing requirements.

The bill also would change the code's requirement for licensing a boxing or sparring match or exhibition to requiring a permit; would exempt boxing announcers from having to be licensed; would require physicians (instead of promoters or boxing clubs) to file reports of physical examinations after a boxing match; and would require suspension of boxers who sustained major injuries or damaging head blows or who tested positive for the presence of drugs.

Currently, if a boxer (or wrestler) loses consciousness during (or as a result of) a match, he or she becomes ineligible to participate again until examined and approved by a physician appointed by the Department of Licensing and Regulation. The bill would add to loss of consciousness two other conditions or circumstances under which boxers would be ineligible for further matches without department-approved physician approval: sustaining major injuries or damaging head blows, and positive testing for the presence of drugs. The bill would require that the Athletic Board of Control decide when the physician's examination could be done (and during which a boxer could not compete) and would allow the board to decide the type of physical exam necessary to demonstrate a boxer's fitness to compete. The board's decision could be appealed only if the boxer's right to compete were not restored after the physician had certified that he or she was fit to compete.

The bill would repeal section 809 of the code, which pertains to failure to properly report matches or exhibitions and defaults of tax payments.

MCL 339.505 et al.