



Romney Building, 10th Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone: 517/373-6466

BOXING ELIMINATION CONTESTS

House Bill 5628

Sponsor: Rep. Michael Griffin

Committee: Commerce

Complete to 3-9-98

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5628 AS INTRODUCED 3-4-98

House Bill 5628 would amend the Occupational Code to repeal the provisions that legalized and exempted from regulation boxing elimination tournaments, commonly known as "tough man" contests.

In Michigan, professional and amateur boxing are regulated under the Occupational Code by the Department of Consumer and Industry Services and the State Athletic Board of Control. In contrast, non-professional boxing elimination contests (legalized by Public Act 257 of 1994 following a court injunction sought by the attorney general), were exempted from regulation under the Occupational Code and removed from the jurisdiction of the Athletic Board of Control if they met certain criteria. Section 805a of the code (first adopted in 1994 and later enhanced in 1995 by Public Act 217) specifies protection measures that promoters must undertake on behalf of contestants. For example, among the provisions are those that set requirements on the length of bouts, require promoters to pay all medical and hospital expenses of injured contestants, require the attendance at ringside of a licensed physician who has authority to stop the contest and to order post-fight neurological examinations, restrict competition for contestants who have sustained severe injuries or knockouts, and require a physical examination for a contestant, including breath tests which indicate blood alcohol content of .02 percent or less. House Bill 5628 would repeal these provisions, and others.

MCL 339.805a

Analyst: J. Hunault

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.