
SENATE BILL 6103

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Senators Zarelli, Keiser, Rasmussen, Regala, Franklin, Kline, Deccio, Jacobsen and Fairley

Read first time 01/12/2004. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to making certain types of extreme fighting
2 illegal; amending RCW 67.08.002 and 67.08.015; prescribing penalties;
3 and declaring an emergency.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 67.08.002 and 2002 c 147 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
8 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

9 (1) "Amateur" means a person who (~~engages in athletic activities~~
10 ~~as a pastime and not as a professional~~) has never received nor
11 competed for any purse or other article of value, either for expenses
12 of training or for participating in an event, other than a prize of
13 fifty dollars in value or less.

14 (2) "Boxing" means (~~a contest in~~) the sport of attack and defense
15 which uses the contestants (~~exchange blows with their~~) fists and
16 where the contestants compete with the intent not to injure or disable
17 an opponent, but to win by decision, knockout, or technical knockout,
18 but does not include professional wrestling.

1 (3) "Chiropractor" means a person licensed under chapter 18.25 RCW
2 as a doctor of chiropractic or under the laws of any jurisdiction in
3 which that person resides.

4 (4) "Department" means the department of licensing.

5 (5) "Director" means the director of the department of licensing or
6 the director's designee.

7 (6) "Event" includes, but is not limited to, a boxing, wrestling,
8 or martial arts contest, sparring, fisticuffs, match, show, or
9 exhibition.

10 (7) "Event physician" means the physician licensed under RCW
11 67.08.100 and who is responsible for the activities described in RCW
12 67.08.090.

13 (8) "Face value" means the dollar value of a ticket or order, which
14 value must reflect the dollar amount that the customer is required to
15 pay or, for a complimentary ticket, would have been required to pay to
16 purchase a ticket with equivalent seating priority, in order to view
17 the event.

18 (9) "Gross receipts" means the amount received from the face value
19 of all tickets sold and complimentary tickets redeemed.

20 (10) "Kickboxing" means a type of boxing in which blows are
21 delivered with the (~~hand~~) fist and any part of the leg below the hip,
22 including the foot and where the contestants compete with the intent
23 not to injure or disable an opponent, but to win by decision, knockout,
24 or technical knockout.

25 (11) "Martial arts" means a type of boxing including sumo, judo,
26 karate, kung fu, tae kwon do, pankration, muay thai, or other forms of
27 full-contact martial arts or self-defense conducted on a full-contact
28 basis where weapons are not used and the participants utilize kicks,
29 punches, blows, or other techniques with the intent not to injure or
30 disable an opponent, but to defeat an opponent or win by decision,
31 knockout, technical knockout, or submission.

32 (12) "No holds barred fighting," also known as "frontier fighting"
33 and "extreme fighting," means a contest, exhibition, or match between
34 contestants where any part of the contestant's body may be used as a
35 weapon or any means of fighting may be used with the specific purpose
36 to intentionally injure the other contestant in such a manner that they
37 may not defend themselves and a winner is declared. Rules may or may
38 not be used.

1 (13) "Combative fighting," also known as "toughman fighting,"
2 "toughwoman fighting," "badman fighting," and "so you think you're
3 tough," means a contest, exhibition, or match between contestants who
4 use their fists, with or without gloves, or their feet, or both, and
5 which allows contestants that are not trained in the sport to compete
6 and the object is to defeat an opponent or to win by decision,
7 knockout, or technical knockout.

8 (14) "Physician" means a person licensed under chapter 18.57,
9 18.36A, or 18.71 RCW as a physician or a person holding an osteopathic
10 or allopathic physician license under the laws of any jurisdiction in
11 which the person resides.

12 (~~(13)~~) (15) "Professional" means a person who has received or
13 competed for (~~money~~) any purse or other articles of value greater
14 than fifty dollars, either for the expenses of training or for
15 participating in an event.

16 (~~(14)~~) (16) "Promoter" means a person, and includes any officer,
17 director, employee, or stockholder of a corporate promoter, who
18 produces, arranges, stages, holds, or gives an event in this state
19 involving a professional boxing, martial arts, or wrestling event, or
20 shows or causes to be shown in this state a closed circuit telecast of
21 a match involving a professional participant whether or not the
22 telecast originates in this state.

23 (~~(15)~~) (17) "Wrestling exhibition" or "wrestling show" means a
24 form of sports entertainment in which the participants display their
25 skills in a physical struggle against each other in the ring and either
26 the outcome may be predetermined or the participants do not necessarily
27 strive to win, or both.

28 (18) "Amateur event" means an event in which all the participants
29 are "amateurs" and which is registered and sanctioned by the:

30 (a) United States Amateur Boxing, Inc.;

31 (b) Washington Interscholastic Activities Association;

32 (c) National Collegiate Athletic Association;

33 (d) Amateur Athletic Union;

34 (e) Golden Gloves of America;

35 (f) United Full Contact Federation; or

36 (g) Local affiliate of any organization listed in this subsection.

37 (19) "Elimination tournament" means any contest in which
38 contestants compete in a series of matches until not more than one

1 contestant remains in any weight category. The term does not include
2 any event that complies with the provisions of RCW 67.08.015(2) (a) or
3 (b).

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 67.08.015 and 2002 c 86 s 306 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) In the interest of ensuring the safety and welfare of the
7 participants, the department shall have power and it shall be its duty
8 to direct, supervise, and control all boxing, martial arts, and
9 wrestling events conducted within this state and an event may not be
10 held in this state except in accordance with the provisions of this
11 chapter. The department may, in its discretion, issue and for cause,
12 which includes concern for the safety and welfare of the participants,
13 take any of the actions specified in RCW 18.235.110 against a license
14 to promote, conduct, or hold boxing, kickboxing, martial arts, or
15 wrestling events where an admission fee is charged by any person, club,
16 corporation, organization, association, or fraternal society.

17 (2) All boxing, kickboxing, martial arts, or wrestling events that:

18 (a) Are conducted by any common school, college, or university,
19 whether public or private, or by the official student association
20 thereof, whether on or off the school, college, or university grounds,
21 where all the participating contestants are bona fide students enrolled
22 in any common school, college, or university, within or without this
23 state; or

24 (b) Are entirely amateur events as defined in RCW 67.08.002(18) and
25 promoted on a nonprofit basis or for charitable purposes;
26 are not subject to the licensing provisions of this chapter. A boxing,
27 martial arts, kickboxing, or wrestling event may not be conducted
28 within the state except under a license issued in accordance with this
29 chapter and the rules of the department except as provided in this
30 section.

31 (3) The director shall prohibit events unless all of the
32 contestants are ~~((either))~~ licensed or otherwise exempt from licensure
33 as provided under this chapter ~~((or trained by an amateur or~~
34 ~~professional sanctioning body recognized by the department))~~.

35 (4) No amateur or professional no holds barred fighting or
36 combative fighting type of contest, exhibition, match, or similar type
37 of event, nor any elimination tournament, may be held in this state.

1 Any person promoting such an event is guilty of a felony.
2 Additionally, the director may apply to a superior court for an
3 injunction against any and all promoters of a contest, and may request
4 that the court seize all money and assets relating to the competition.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
7 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
8 immediately.

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