

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 538

BY REPRESENTATIVE WYBLE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

AMUSEMENTS/SPORTS: Provides with respect to the State Boxing and Wrestling Commission

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 4:61(A), 65(A)(2) and (B), 67(C)(1), 72, 79(C), 81.1(A),

3 83(B)(2) and (C)(1), and 85(3) and R.S. 36:4.1(C)(11) and to enact R.S. 4:67(C)(4),

4 relative to the State Boxing and Wrestling Commission; to change the name of the

5 commission; to provide with respect to a safety zone for events; to provide for the

6 assessment of fees; to provide that the board shall not receive any state funds; to

7 repeal provisions regarding salaries for board members; to repeal the statutorily

8 defined amounts of certain licensing fees; to authorize the board to fix salaries and

9 licensing fees; to provide with respect to an events coordinator; to provide with

10 respect to the venue capacity for certain professional wrestling events; to provide for

11 professional wrestling event fees; to provide for an exception for professional

12 wrestling bonds; and to provide for related matters.

13 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

14 Section 1. R.S. 4:61(A), 65(A)(2) and (B), 67(C)(1), 72, 79(C), 81.1(A), 83(B)(2)

15 and (C)(1), and 85(3) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 4:67(C)(4) is hereby

16 enacted to read as follows:

17 §61. ~~State Boxing and Wrestling~~ Louisiana State Athletic Commission; domicile;

18 authority

19 A. There is hereby created a ~~State Boxing and Wrestling~~ Louisiana State

20 Athletic Commission within the office of the governor. It shall consist of seven

1 members, all of whom shall be appointed by the governor to serve at the pleasure of
 2 the governor making the appointment. Five members appointed by the governor
 3 shall be appointed, one from each Public Service Commission district and two from
 4 the state at large. Each appointment by the governor shall be submitted to the Senate
 5 for confirmation. The governor shall designate one member as chairman, one
 6 member as secretary, and one member as vice chairman. The secretary shall execute
 7 a bond of five thousand dollars, in favor of the state treasurer, for the faithful
 8 performance of the duties of his office. The premium of this bond shall be paid out
 9 of the commission funds.

* * *

11 §65. Licenses; fees; bond

12 A.

13 * * *

14 (2) Before any such license is granted, the applicant shall execute and file
 15 with the ~~State Boxing and Wrestling~~ Louisiana State Athletic Commission a bond
 16 of five thousand dollars in favor of the Louisiana State ~~Boxing and Wrestling~~
 17 Athletic Commission as a security of good faith and ability to abide by the terms and
 18 provisions of this Chapter, for which the commission secretary shall issue to the
 19 applicant a certificate of its filing and approval. In lieu thereof, a certified check will
 20 be acceptable, which amount shall be kept on deposit by the secretary for the
 21 duration of the license period. This bond may be increased by the commission
 22 before approving the holding, conducting, or giving of any boxing, mixed technique
 23 event, or wrestling exhibition or contest, based upon the seating capacity of the hall
 24 or facility where said contest or exhibition is to be conducted. The following
 25 schedule shall govern the amount of the additional bond that may be required to be
 26 posted with the commission for the holding, conducting, or giving of a boxing,
 27 mixed technique event, or wrestling contest or exhibition:

28 * * *

1 * * *

2 (2) The venue for the event is either a primary or secondary school
3 gymnasium or has a capacity of ~~four hundred~~ one thousand persons or fewer as
4 certified by the state fire marshal.

5 * * *

6 C. The following shall apply to any professional wrestling event conducted
7 pursuant to Subsection B of this Section:

8 (1) The promoter shall not be required by the commission to pay any show
9 date reservation fee however, the commission shall charge a fee of two hundred fifty
10 dollars for the approval and review of the ~~nor shall any fee be charged for~~
11 ~~submission of the~~ written notice required by Paragraph (B)(6) of this Section.

12 * * *

13 §85. Definitions; construction

14 As used in this Chapter:

15 * * *

16 (3) "Commission" means the ~~State Boxing and Wrestling~~ Louisiana State
17 Athletic Commission.

18 * * *

19 Section 2. R.S. 36:4.1(C)(11) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

20 §4.1. Agencies transferred from Louisiana Economic Development to the office of
21 the governor; agencies placed within the office of the governor

22 * * *

23 C. The following agencies are hereby transferred to and shall be placed
24 within the office of the governor and shall perform and exercise their powers, duties,
25 functions, and responsibilities as provided in R.S. 36:803:

26 * * *

27 (11) ~~State Boxing and Wrestling~~ Louisiana State Athletic Commission (R.S.
28 4:61 et seq.).

29 * * *

1 Section 3. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby authorized and requested to
 2 change all references in the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 to the State Boxing and
 3 Wrestling Commission, whether referred to as "State Boxing and Wrestling Commission"
 4 or commission, to "Louisiana State Athletic Commission" where appropriate.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 538 Original

2025 Regular Session

Wyble

Abstract: Provides for changes to the State Boxing and Wrestling Commission.

Present law provides that the State Boxing and Wrestling Commission (commission) has authority to regulate boxing and wrestling contests.

Proposed law changes the name of the commission to the Louisiana State Athletic Commission and otherwise retains present law.

Present law establishes fixed salaries for members of the commission and commission employees.

Proposed law removes the fixed amounts provided for in present law and allows the commission to establish those salaries.

Present law establishes fixed fees for various license types issued by the commission.

Proposed law retains the same license types of present law but removes the fixed amounts of the fees for those licenses and allows the commission to establish those fees.

Proposed law creates a safety zone for events which proposed law defines as an area around the ring or cage extending no less than eight feet as measured from the ring, cage, or from the catwalk which shall be partitioned at that distance of eight feet using ropes, fencing, police barriers, bicycle barriers, or other emplacements from the public seating.

Proposed law further provides that no one not specifically authorized by commission members in attendance may sit in the safety zone and non-compliance can result in a person being ejected from the event.

The proposed law safety zone replaces the present law provisions regarding seat proximity to the ring.

Proposed law provides that no state funds shall be used for any commission expenditure or for the benefit of any commission employee or member.

Present law provides that the commission may appoint an events coordinator, not on the commission, for any boxing event the commission deems necessary, whose fee shall be paid by the club promoting the event in question, which amount shall not exceed \$350 per event.

Proposed law removes prohibition that the events coordinator cannot be on the commission and removes the \$350 amount of the fee and allows the fee to be set by commission.

Proposed law changes the name of the State Boxing and Wrestling Commission to the Louisiana State Athletic Commission in applicable present law.

(Amends R.S. 4:61(A), 65(A)(2) and (B), 67(C)(1), 72, 79(C), 81.1(A), 83(B)(2) and (C)(1), and 85(3) and R.S. 36:4.1(C)(11); Adds R.S. 4:67(C)(4))