

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 502

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE

AMUSEMENTS/SPORTS: Provides relative to the regulation of professional wrestling

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 4:83 and to enact R.S. 4:61(G) and 65(A)(4), relative to the
3 regulation of professional wrestling; to provide for professional wrestling bond
4 exception; to provide for exemptions; to provide for definitions; and to provide for
5 related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 4:83 is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 4:61(G) and
8 65(A)(4) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §61. State Boxing and Wrestling Commission; domicile; authority

10 * * *

11 G. The commission, the individual members of the commission, and the state
12 of Louisiana shall not be liable for damages in any civil action for any event which
13 is promoted pursuant to R.S. 4:83(B).

14 * * *

15 §65. Licenses; fees; bond

16 A.

17 * * *

18 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Subsection, the commission
19 shall not require the furnishing of any bond for a professional wrestling promoter

1 who, during the calendar year the promoter's license is granted, promotes exclusively
2 events authorized by R.S. 4:83(B).

3 * * *

4 §83. Application of Chapter; exemption

5 A. The provisions of this Chapter do not apply to amateur contests,
6 competitions, or exhibitions.

7 B. The provisions of R.S. 4:65(A)(2), 67(A) and (B), 68 through 70, 72, 73,
8 and 79(C) shall not apply to any professional wrestling event provided all of the
9 following conditions are met:

10 (1) The promoter and all the participants are licensed pursuant to R.S.
11 4:65(A)(1) and (B).

12 (2) The venue for the event is either a primary or secondary school
13 gymnasium or has a capacity of four hundred persons or fewer as certified by the
14 state fire marshal.

15 (3) There is present at each such event, from the start of the event until the
16 finish of the event, an individual of the full age of majority, who is not a participant
17 in the event, who has documented current certification in Infant/Child/Adult CPR.

18 (4) The promoter secures a commercial liability policy for a minimum of one
19 hundred thousand dollars or provides proof to the secretary of the commission that
20 the venue provides a liability policy in that amount, which policy shall be in full
21 force and effect at the time of the event.

22 (5) All applicable provisions of this Chapter and the rules and regulations for
23 the commission are observed and obeyed during the event.

24 (6) The promoter provides written notice to the secretary of the commission
25 no less than fifteen days prior to the event which certifies the compliance with
26 Paragraphs (1) through (5) of this Subsection and includes verifying documents.

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

1 (1) The promoter shall not be required by the commission to pay any show
2 date reservation fee nor shall any fee be charged for submission of the written notice
3 required by Paragraph (B)(6) of this Section.

4 (2) A promoter shall not be required by the commission to purchase health
5 insurance for the event.

6 (3) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the commission
7 shall not be required to have any representative present at the event.

8 (4) The promoter shall at all times be responsible at the event for compliance
9 with the applicable provisions of this Chapter and the rules and regulations of the
10 commission.

11 (5) The promoter shall, within the fifteen days following the event, report in
12 writing the results of each event.

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 502 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Zeringue

Abstract: Revises regulations on professional wrestling when certain conditions are met.

Proposed law provides that a wrestling promoter who, during the calendar year his license is granted, promotes exclusively events authorized by proposed law, shall not be required by the commission to furnish a bond.

Proposed law provides conditions which must be met in order for a professional wrestling event to be in compliance with proposed law. The requirements are as follows:

- (1) The promoter and all the participants are licensed pursuant to present law.
- (2) The venue for the event is either a primary or secondary school gymnasium or has a capacity of four hundred persons or fewer as certified by the state fire marshal.
- (3) There is present at each such event, from the start of the event until the finish of the event, an individual of the full age of majority, who is not a participant in the event, who has documented current certification in Infant/Child/Adult CPR.
- (4) The promoter secures a commercial liability policy for a minimum of one hundred thousand dollars or provides proof to the secretary of the commission that the venue provides a liability policy in that amount, which policy shall be in full force and effect at the time of the event.
- (5) All applicable provisions of present and proposed law and the rules and regulations for the commission are observed and obeyed during the event.

- (6) The promoter provides written notice to the secretary of the commission no less than fifteen days prior to the event which certifies the compliance with proposed law and includes verifying documents.

Proposed law provides that when the requirements enumerated in proposed law are met, the provisions of present law shall not apply to that professional wrestling event.

Proposed law provides a list of conditions which shall apply to a wrestling event conducted pursuant to proposed law as follows:

- (1) The promoter shall not be required by the commission to pay any show date reservation fee nor shall any fee be charged for submission of the written notice required by proposed law.
- (2) A promoter shall not be required by the commission to purchase health insurance for the event.
- (3) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the commission shall not be required to have any representative present at the event.
- (4) The promoter shall at all times be responsible at the event for compliance with the applicable provisions of present and proposed law and the rules and regulations of the commission.
- (5) The promoter shall, within the fifteen days following the event, report in writing the results of each event.

Proposed law provides that the commission, the individual members of the commission, and the state of Louisiana shall not be liable for damages in any civil action for any event which is promoted pursuant to proposed law.

(Amends R.S. 4:83; Adds R.S. 4:61(G) and 65(A)(4))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Commerce to the original bill:

1. Provide that the commission, its members, and the state of Louisiana shall not be held liable for any civil action arising out of an event promoted pursuant to proposed law.
2. Provide the portions of law, which promoters are exempted from, if the wrestling event they promote meets all of the requirements of proposed law.
3. Provide six requirements, which the promoter must comply with, in order for an event to be authorized pursuant to proposed law.
4. Provide additional information relative to the various responsibilities and privileges of the promoter of an event pursuant to proposed law.
5. Remove the defined term to a "charitable purpose".