

**OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 538** HLS 25RS 782
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 9, 2025	1:43 PM	Author: WYBLE
Dept./Agy.: State Boxing and Wrestling Commission		Analyst: Barry Kelly
Subject: Commission Renaming, Fee Changes, and Event Regulation		

AMUSEMENTS/SPORTS OR SEE FISC NOTE SG RV Page 1 of 2
 Provides with respect to the State Boxing and Wrestling Commission

Purpose of the Bill: This bill amends current law governing the State Boxing and Wrestling Commission (Commission). Specifically, the bill: (1) renames the Commission to the "Louisiana State Athletic Commission"; (2) authorizes the Commission to establish fees and fix commissioner salaries rather than being set by statute; (3) repeals the \$80 per diem for travel paid to commissioners for event attendance; (4) requires the Commission be financially self-sufficient and prohibits the use of any state funds for Commission expenditures; (5) amends requirements for a safety zone around the event area; (6) removes the prohibition on commissioners serving as event coordinators; (7) expands the venue capacity threshold from 400 to 1,000 persons for certain professional wrestling events to qualify for exemptions from certain statutory requirements, including a 5% tax on gross receipts; and (8) requires the Commission to charge \$250 for the review and approval of written notifications from professional wrestling promoters regarding legal compliance with state law.

EXPENDITURES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	SEE BELOW					
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	SEE BELOW					
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Annual Total

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The overall fiscal impact on Commission expenditures is indeterminable due to a lack of information. However, we have provided information below to show potential fiscal impacts of individual provisions of this bill.

Based on our analysis and information from the Commission, the provisions of the bill that appear likely to have a direct material impact on Commission expenditures are (a) authorizing the Commission to fix commissioner salaries rather than being set by statute, (b) repealing the \$80 per diem for travel paid to commissioners for event attendance, and (c) expanding the venue capacity threshold from 400 to 1,000 persons for certain professional wrestling events to qualify for exemptions from certain statutory requirements. The following is our analysis of the impact of these provisions:

(a) **Commissioner Salaries:** Authorizing the Commission to set commissioner salaries may impact Commission expenditures by an indeterminable amount as the Commission could increase or decrease these salaries. However, based on information from the Commission regarding possible amendments to the bill, assuming that the Commission increases the annual salary of the four regular commissioners from \$4,300 per year to \$6,000 per year, Commission expenditures may increase by \$6,800 annually.

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REVENUE EXPLANATION

The overall fiscal impact on Commission revenue is indeterminable due to a lack of information. However, we have provided information below to show potential fiscal impacts of individual provisions of this bill.

Based on our analysis and information from the Commission, the provisions of the bill that appear likely to have a direct material impact on Commission revenue are (a) authorizing the Commission to establish fees rather than being set by statute; (b) requiring the Commission to charge \$250 for the review and approval of written notifications from professional wrestling promoters regarding legal compliance with state law; and (c) expanding the venue capacity threshold from 400 to 1,000 persons for certain professional wrestling events to qualify for exemptions from certain statutory requirements, including a 5% tax on gross receipts. The following is our analysis of the impact of these provisions:

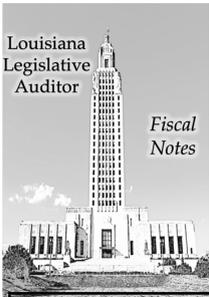
(a) **Commission Fees:** Authorizing the Commission to set its own license fees may impact Commission revenue by an indeterminable amount as the Commission could increase or decrease these fees. However, based on information from the Commission regarding possible amendments to the bill, assuming that the Commission imposes the fees provided in this information, Commission revenue may increase by approximately \$8,000.

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Senate
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

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Michael G. Battle
 Manager, Advisory Services



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(b) Repeal of Per Diem: Repealing the \$80 per diem for commissioner travel may decrease expenditures by an indeterminable amount. For informational purposes, we note that total commissioner travel costs averaged \$5,270 annually over the past four years, but this amount appears to include non-per diem related expenditures.

(c) Expanded Event Exemption: Expanding the venue capacity exemption may decrease Commission expenditures by an indeterminable amount due to removing the need for travel and oversight of an additional 14 events annually.

REVENUE EXPLANATION (Continued from Page 1)

(b) Notification Fee: Current law does not provide a fee for the review and approval of certain professional wrestling event notices. However, the Commission's current practice is to collect a \$100 fee for this process. While the \$250 fee mandated by this bill is, legally, a new statutory fee, its net impact on Commission revenue is an increase of \$150 per notice (the \$250 fee provided by this bill less the \$100 currently collected). Assuming this fee applies to approximately 40 events annually, this provision is projected to increase Commission revenue by approximately \$6,000 annually.

(c) Expanded Event Exemption: Expanding the venue capacity exemption may make an additional 14 events annually exempt from certain legal requirements, including a 5% tax on gross receipts from events. As a result of expanding the exemption, Commission revenues generated from these events may decrease. However, the exact amount of the impact is currently indeterminable due to a lack of information regarding the amount of revenue this exemption expansion will affect.

Senate Dual Referral Rules
13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Michael G. Battle
Manager, Advisory Services