

104<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1186

To provide for the safety of journeymen boxers, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 1995

Mr. OXLEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To provide for the safety of journeymen boxers, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Professional Boxing  
5 Safety Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 For purposes of this Act—

8 (1) the term “boxer” means a person who par-  
9 ticipates in a professional boxing match;

1           (2) the term “licensee” means an individual  
2 who serves as a trainer, second, or cut man for a  
3 professional boxer;

4           (3) the term “manager” means a person or  
5 business who helps arrange professional boxing  
6 matches for a boxer, and who serves as an advisor  
7 or representative of a boxer in a professional capac-  
8 ity;

9           (4) the term “matchmaker” means a person or  
10 business that proposes, selects, and arranges the  
11 boxers to participate in a professional boxing event;

12           (5) the term “professional boxing match”  
13 means a boxing contest held in the United States be-  
14 tween individuals for compensation or a prize, and  
15 does not include any amateur boxing match;

16           (6) the term “promoter” means a person or  
17 business that organizes, holds, advertises, or other-  
18 wise conducts a professional boxing match; and

19           (7) the term “State boxing commission” means  
20 a State agency with authority to regulate profes-  
21 sional boxing.

22 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

23           The purposes of this Act are—

1           (1) to improve and expand the system of safety  
2           precautions that protects the welfare of professional  
3           boxers; and

4           (2) to assist State boxing commissions to pro-  
5           vide proper oversight for the professional boxing in-  
6           dustry in the United States.

7   **SEC. 4. PROFESSIONAL BOXING MATCHES.**

8           A professional boxing match may be held in the  
9   United States only if—

10           (1)(A) the State where the professional boxing  
11           match is to be held has a State boxing commission;  
12           or

13           (B) the promoter who seeks to put on a boxing  
14           event in a State that does not have a boxing com-  
15           mission has entered into an agreement with the chief  
16           administrative officer of a State that has a boxing  
17           commission to oversee the match; and

18           (2) the State boxing commission has established  
19           procedures to carry out sections 5, 6, and 7.

20   **SEC. 5. REGISTRATION.**

21           (a) **REQUIREMENT.**—Each professional boxer shall  
22   register with—

23           (1) the State boxing commission of the State in  
24           which such boxer resides; or

1           (2) in the case of a boxer who is a resident of  
2 a foreign country, or a State in which there is no  
3 State boxing commission, the State boxing commis-  
4 sion of any State that has such a commission.

5 (b) IDENTIFICATION CARD.—

6           (1) ISSUANCE.—A State boxing commission  
7 shall issue to each professional boxer who registers  
8 in accordance with subsection (a), an identification  
9 card that contains—

10                   (A) a recent photograph of the boxer;

11                   (B) the social security number of the boxer  
12 (or, in the case of a foreign boxer, any similar  
13 citizen identification number or professional  
14 boxer number from the country of residence of  
15 the boxer); and

16                   (C) the personal identification numbers as-  
17 signed to the boxer by the boxing registries cer-  
18 tified by the Association of Boxing Commis-  
19 sioners.

20           (2) RENEWAL.—Each professional boxer shall  
21 renew his or her identification card at least once  
22 every 3 years.

23           (3) PRESENTATION.—Each professional boxer  
24 shall present his or her identification card to the

1 State boxing commission not later than the time of  
2 the weigh-in for a professional boxing match.

3 (c) RELATION TO STATE LAW.—Nothing in this sec-  
4 tion shall be construed as preventing a State from apply-  
5 ing additional registration requirements.

6 **SEC. 6. REVIEW.**

7 Each State boxing commission shall establish proce-  
8 dures—

9 (1) to evaluate the professional records of each  
10 boxer participating in a boxing match in the State;

11 (2) to ensure that no boxer is permitted to box  
12 while under suspension from any State boxing com-  
13 mission due to injury or other medical-related rea-  
14 son, including—

15 (A) a recent knockout, injury, or require-  
16 ment for a medical procedure;

17 (B) failure of a drug test;

18 (C) poor boxing skills, or the inability to  
19 safely compete; and

20 (D) the use of false aliases, or falsifying,  
21 or attempts to falsify, official identification  
22 cards or documents; and

23 (3) to ensure that if such commission is consid-  
24 ering permitting a boxer, promoter, manager, or  
25 other licensee to participate in a boxing event while

1 the individual is under suspension from any State  
2 for reasons other than the reasons listed in para-  
3 graph (2), such commission shall notify and consult  
4 with the chief administrative officer of the State that  
5 ordered the suspension prior to the grant of ap-  
6 proval for such individual to participate in such box-  
7 ing event.

8 **SEC. 7. REPORTING.**

9 (a) **BOXING MATCH RESULTS.**—Not later than 48  
10 business hours (excluding Saturdays and Sundays) after  
11 the conclusion of a professional boxing match, the results  
12 of such match shall be reported to the professional boxing  
13 registries certified by the Association of Boxing Commis-  
14 sions (ABC) and to the Florida State Athletic Commis-  
15 sion.

16 (b) **SUSPENSIONS.**—Not later than 48 business hours  
17 (excluding Saturdays and Sundays) after a State boxing  
18 commission orders the suspension of a boxer, promoter,  
19 or manager, such suspension shall be reported to the pro-  
20 fessional boxing registries certified by the Association of  
21 Boxing Commissions (ABC) and to the Florida State Ath-  
22 letic Commission.

23 (c) **ALTERNATE REPORTING ENTITY.**—If the State  
24 of Florida ceases, for any reason, to publish and circulate  
25 a national suspension list at no cost to other States on

1 a frequent basis, the Association of Boxing Commissions  
2 (ABC) shall select a different public or private entity to  
3 voluntarily undertake to compile and circulate a suspen-  
4 sion list to all State commissions at no cost.

5 **SEC. 8. ENFORCEMENT.**

6 (a) INJUNCTIONS.—Whenever the United States At-  
7 torney in a State has reasonable cause to believe that a  
8 person or entity is engaged in a violation of this Act in  
9 such State, the United States Attorney may bring a civil  
10 action in the appropriate district court of the United  
11 States requesting such relief, including a permanent or  
12 temporary injunction, restraining order, or other order,  
13 against the person or entity, as the United States Attor-  
14 ney determines necessary to restrain the person or entity  
15 from continuing to engage in, or to sanction, a profes-  
16 sional boxing match in violation of this Act.

17 (b) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—

18 (1) MANAGERS, PROMOTERS, MATCHMAKERS,  
19 AND LICENSEES.—Each manager, promoter, match-  
20 maker, and licensee who knowingly and willfully vio-  
21 lates any provision of this Act shall be imprisoned  
22 for not more than 1 year or fined more than  
23 \$20,000, or both.

1           (2) BOXERS.—Any professional boxer who  
2           knowingly and willfully violates any provision of this  
3           Act shall be fined not more than \$1,000.

4 **SEC. 9. STUDY.**

5           (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor shall con-  
6           duct a study on the feasibility and cost of a national pen-  
7           sion system for professional boxers, including potential  
8           funding sources.

9           (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
10          of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall sub-  
11          mit a report to the Congress on the findings of the study  
12          conducted pursuant to subsection (a).

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