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HOUSE BILL 252

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026

INTRODUCED BY

Art De La Cruz and Antonio Maestas

AN ACT

RELATING TO ATHLETIC COMPETITION; TRANSFERRING NEW MEXICO
ATHLETIC COMMISSION AUTHORITY TO THE REGULATION AND LICENSING
DEPARTMENT; EXPANDING THE NUMBER OF COMMISSION MEMBERS;
CHANGING COMMISSION COMPOSITION; PERMITTING THE FORMATION OF
COMMITTEES; ELIMINATING THE MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD; ADDING
LICENSING CATEGORIES; ELIMINATING PENALTIES; AMENDING THE TYPES
OF FEES DEDICATED TO THE ATHLETIC COMMISSION FUND; AMENDING AND
REPEALING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 60-2A-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
Chapter 90, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"60-2A-2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Professional
Athletic Competition Act:

[A. ~~"board" means the medical advisory board;~~

1 ~~B.~~ A. "closed circuit telecast" means a telecast
2 that is not intended to be available for viewing without the
3 payment of a fee, including a pay-per-view telecast, podcast,
4 webcast, streaming media or any electronic transmission to an
5 arena, bar, lounge, club, entertainment or meeting center or
6 private residence;

7 ~~[C.]~~ B. "commission" means the New Mexico athletic
8 commission;

9 ~~[D.]~~ C. "contestant" means a person who engages in
10 unarmed combat for remuneration;

11 ~~[E.]~~ D. "department" means the regulation and
12 licensing department;

13 E. "event coordinator" means a person who oversees
14 the detailed requirements of the Professional Athletic
15 Competition Act on behalf of the commission before, during and
16 after an exhibition;

17 F. "exhibition" means any contest or portion of a
18 fight card, bout or event in any form of unarmed combat
19 regulated by the commission [~~and conducted, held or televised~~
20 ~~on a closed circuit telecast originating in New Mexico~~];

21 G. "foreign co-promoter" means a promoter who has
22 no place of business in this state;

23 H. "manager":

24 (1) means a person who:

25 (a) undertakes to represent the

1 interests of another person by contract, agreement or other
2 arrangement in procuring, arranging or conducting a
3 professional contest or exhibition in which the represented
4 person will participate as a contestant;

5 (b) directs or controls the activities
6 of an unarmed combatant relating to the participation of the
7 unarmed combatant in professional contests or exhibitions;

8 (c) receives or is entitled to receive
9 at least ten percent of the gross purse or gross income of any
10 professional unarmed combatant for services relating to the
11 participation of the unarmed combatant in a professional
12 contest or exhibition; or

13 (d) receives compensation for services
14 as an agent or representative of an unarmed combatant; and

15 (2) does not include an attorney who is
16 licensed to practice law in this state if the attorney's
17 participation in any of the activities described in Paragraph
18 (1) of this subsection is limited solely to the legal
19 representation of a client who is an unarmed combatant;

20 I. "professional boxer" means an individual who
21 competes for money, prizes or purses or who teaches, pursues or
22 assists in the practice of boxing as a means of obtaining a
23 livelihood or pecuniary gain;

24 J. "professional contest" means any professional
25 boxing, professional kickboxing, professional martial arts,

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1 professional mixed martial arts or sports entertainment
2 wrestling contest or exhibition, whether or not an admission
3 fee is charged for admission of the public;

4 K. "professional kickboxer" means an individual who
5 competes for money, prizes or purses or who teaches, pursues or
6 assists in the practice of kickboxing as a means of obtaining a
7 livelihood or pecuniary gain;

8 L. "professional martial artist" means an
9 individual who competes for money, prizes or purses or who
10 teaches, pursues or assists in the practice of martial arts as
11 a means of obtaining a livelihood or pecuniary gain;

12 M. "professional mixed martial artist" means an
13 individual who competes for money, prizes or purses or who
14 teaches, pursues or assists in the practice of mixed martial
15 arts as a means of obtaining a livelihood or pecuniary gain;

16 N. "promoter" means any person, and in the case of
17 a corporate promoter includes any officer, director or
18 stockholder of the corporation, who produces or stages any
19 professional boxing, professional kickboxing, professional
20 martial arts, professional mixed martial arts or sports
21 entertainment wrestling contest, exhibition, ~~[or closed circuit~~
22 ~~television show]~~ telecast or webcast;

23 O. "purse" means the financial guarantee or any
24 other remuneration, or part thereof, for which professional
25 boxers, professional kickboxers, professional martial artists,

1 professional mixed martial artists or sports entertainment
2 wrestlers are participating in a contest or exhibition and
3 includes the participant's share of any payment received for
4 radio broadcasting, television or motion picture rights;

5 P. "resident" means a person who is domiciled in
6 the state during any part of the year or a person who is
7 physically present in the state for one hundred eighty-five
8 days or more during a taxable year;

9 [P-] Q. "ring official" means any person who
10 performs an official function during the progress of a contest
11 or exhibition;

12 R. "sanctioning organization" means an organization
13 whose rules for a particular unarmed combat contest are
14 recognized by the commission;

15 [Q-] S. "sports entertainment wrestler" means an
16 individual who competes for money, prizes or purses or who
17 teaches, pursues or assists in the practice of sports
18 entertainment wrestling as a means of obtaining a livelihood or
19 pecuniary gain;

20 [R-] T. "sports entertainment wrestling" means an
21 activity in which participants struggle hand-to-hand primarily
22 for the purpose of providing entertainment to spectators rather
23 than conducting a bona fide athletic contest;

24 [S-] U. "unarmed combat" means boxing, kickboxing,
25 martial arts, mixed martial arts, competitive wrestling, sports

1 entertainment wrestling or any form of competition in which a
2 blow is usually struck that may reasonably be expected to
3 inflict injury; and

4 [F.] V. "unarmed combatant" means:

5 (1) a person who engages in unarmed combat in
6 a contest or exhibition, whether or not the person receives
7 remuneration, including a boxer, kickboxer, martial artist,
8 mixed martial artist, competitive wrestler, sports
9 entertainment wrestler or other contestant; or

10 (2) an amateur boxer who is registered with
11 United States amateur boxing, incorporated, or any other
12 amateur organization recognized by the commission and
13 participates in an amateur boxing contest or exhibition in the
14 state that is registered and sanctioned by United States
15 amateur boxing, incorporated, or golden gloves of America."

16 SECTION 2. Section 60-2A-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
17 Chapter 90, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

18 "60-2A-3. COMMISSION CREATED--MEMBERSHIP--TERMS--
19 RESTRICTIONS.--

20 A. There is created the "New Mexico athletic
21 commission". The commission [~~shall be~~] is administratively
22 attached to the department.

23 B. The commission shall [~~consist of five members~~
24 ~~who are New Mexico residents and who are appointed by the~~
25 ~~governor. Three of the members shall have experience in the~~

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1 ~~professional sports and the other two members shall represent~~
2 ~~the public. The public members shall not have been licensed or~~
3 ~~have any financial interest, direct or indirect, in the~~
4 ~~profession regulated. The members shall be appointed for~~
5 ~~staggered terms of four years each. Each member shall hold~~
6 ~~office until the expiration of the term for which appointed or~~
7 ~~until a successor has been appointed. Not more than three~~
8 ~~members of the commission shall be appointed from the same~~
9 ~~political party. No commission member shall serve more than~~
10 ~~two full terms consecutively.~~

11 ~~C. No member shall at any time during his~~
12 ~~membership on the commission promote or sponsor any~~
13 ~~professional contest or have any financial interest in the~~
14 ~~promotion or sponsorship of any professional contest] advise~~
15 ~~the department, the legislature and the governor to promote the~~
16 ~~growth of unarmed combat sports in New Mexico.~~

17 C. The commission consists of seven members who are
18 New Mexico residents and who are appointed by the governor.
19 Two members shall have experience promoting sporting events or
20 shall have participated in unarmed combat sporting events as
21 contestants. One member shall be a New Mexico-licensed
22 attorney. One member shall be a licensed medical professional.
23 The other three members shall represent the public. The
24 members shall not be licensed or have a financial interest,
25 direct or indirect, in the profession regulated by the

1 commission. The members shall be appointed for staggered terms
2 of four years each. Each member shall hold office until the
3 expiration of the term for which that member was appointed or
4 until a successor has been appointed. No more than four
5 members of the commission shall be appointed from the same
6 political party."

7 SECTION 3. Section 60-2A-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
8 Chapter 90, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

9 "60-2A-4. [~~CHAIRMAN~~] CHAIR--RULES--DUTIES--COMMITTEES.--

10 A. The commission shall elect annually in December
11 a [~~chairman~~] chair and such other officers as it deems
12 necessary. The commission shall meet as often as necessary for
13 the conduct of business, but no less than twice a year.
14 Meetings shall be called by the [~~chairman~~] chair or upon the
15 written request of three or more members of the commission.
16 [~~Three~~] Four members, at least one of whom is a public member,
17 shall constitute a quorum.

18 B. The commission may adopt, purchase and use a
19 seal.

20 C. The commission may [~~adopt~~] recommend rules to be
21 adopted by the department, subject to the provisions of the
22 State Rules Act, for the administration of the Professional
23 Athletic Competition Act not inconsistent with the provisions
24 of the Professional Athletic Competition Act. The rules shall
25 include [~~but not be limited to the:~~

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1 ~~(1) number and qualifications of ring~~
2 ~~officials required in a professional contest;~~
3 ~~(2) powers, duties and compensation of ring~~
4 ~~officials; and~~
5 ~~(3) qualifications of licensees]~~ the
6 qualifications for licensees.

7 D. The commission [~~shall prepare all forms of~~
8 ~~contracts between sponsors, licensees, promoters and~~
9 ~~contestants]~~ may establish committees as the commission deems
10 necessary to fulfill its duties. Committees may include other
11 public members, but all committees shall be chaired by a member
12 of the commission. The public members of a committee shall
13 serve without compensation."

14 SECTION 4. Section 60-2A-8.2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2007,
15 Chapter 109, Section 2) is amended to read:

16 "60-2A-8.2. JURISDICTION OF COMMISSION OVER UNARMED
17 COMBAT CONTESTS--APPROVAL OF SANCTIONING ORGANIZATIONS.--

18 A. The commission shall have sole direction,
19 management, control and jurisdiction over all contests or
20 exhibitions of unarmed combat to be conducted, held or given
21 within New Mexico, and no contest or exhibition may be
22 conducted, held or given within the state except in accordance
23 with the provisions of the Professional Athletic Competition
24 Act.

25 B. The commission may approve one or more

1 sanctioning organization for professional or amateur unarmed
2 combat. A sanctioning organization approved by the commission
3 shall report to the commission the results of all contests or
4 exhibitions sanctioned by the sanctioning organization.

5 [B-] C. Any contest involving a form of [~~Oriental~~]
6 unarmed [~~self-defense~~] combat must be conducted pursuant to
7 rules for that form that are approved by the commission before
8 the contest is conducted, held or given in the state except in
9 accordance with the provisions of the Professional Athletic
10 Competition Act."

11 SECTION 5. Section 60-2A-9 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
12 Chapter 90, Section 9) is amended to read:

13 "60-2A-9. LICENSES TO CONDUCT PROFESSIONAL CONTESTS.--

14 A. The [~~commission~~] department may issue licenses
15 to conduct, hold or give a professional contest to any promoter
16 under such terms and in accordance with such rules as the
17 commission may adopt.

18 B. Any application for [~~such~~] a license shall be in
19 writing and shall correctly show the promoter. The application
20 shall be accompanied by the annual fee prescribed by law.

21 C. Before any license is granted to a promoter, the
22 promoter must file a bond in an amount fixed by the commission
23 but not less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) with good and
24 sufficient surety and conditioned for the faithful performance
25 by the promoter of the provisions of the Professional Athletic

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1 Competition Act."

2 SECTION 6. Section 60-2A-10 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
3 Chapter 90, Section 10, as amended) is amended to read:

4 "60-2A-10. LICENSES FOR PROMOTERS, BOXERS, TRAINERS, RING
5 OFFICIALS AND OTHERS.--

6 A. All promoters, foreign co-promoters,
7 matchmakers, professional boxers, professional kickboxers,
8 professional martial artists, professional mixed martial
9 artists, sports entertainment wrestlers, managers, seconds,
10 announcers, referees, trainers, booking agents, event
11 coordinators and timekeepers shall be licensed by the
12 [~~commission~~] department.

13 B. No person shall be permitted to participate
14 either directly or indirectly in any professional contest
15 unless the person has first procured a license from the
16 [~~commission~~].

17 ~~C. Any person violating the provisions of this~~
18 ~~section is guilty of a petty misdemeanor]~~ department."

19 SECTION 7. Section 60-2A-11 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
20 Chapter 90, Section 11) is amended to read:

21 "60-2A-11. LICENSES FOR [PHYSICIANS] MEDICAL
22 PROFESSIONALS.--The [~~commission~~] department may issue licenses
23 without fees to [~~physicians~~] medical professionals, authorizing
24 them to [~~officiate~~] monitor and evaluate participants and
25 confer with the referee and commissioner when necessary at

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professional contests."

SECTION 8. Section 60-2A-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980, Chapter 90, Section 12, as amended) is amended to read:

"60-2A-12. LICENSE FEES.--

A. The annual license fee shall not exceed the following amounts:

- | | | |
|------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| (1) | promoters | \$500.00 |
| (2) | foreign co-promoters | 750.00 |
| (3) | referees | 75.00 |
| (4) | timekeepers and announcers | 75.00 |
| (5) | seconds and trainers | 75.00 |
| (6) | managers | 75.00 |
| (7) | professional boxers | 75.00 |
| (8) | professional kickboxers | 75.00 |
| (9) | booking agents | 75.00 |
| (10) | matchmakers | 75.00 |
| (11) | judges | 75.00 |
| (12) | professional mixed martial artists | 75.00 |
| (13) | amateur mixed martial artists . . . | 75.00 |
| (14) | professional martial artists . . . | 75.00 |
| (15) | sports entertainment wrestlers . . | 75.00 |
| (16) | event coordinators | 75.00. |

Every license shall expire ~~[at midnight on December 31 of the year in which the license is issued]~~ one year from the date of issuance of the license.

1 B. An unarmed combatant may hold a professional
2 license in one [~~commission~~] licensing category while
3 maintaining amateur status in other unarmed combat
4 disciplines."

5 SECTION 9. Section 60-2A-13 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
6 Chapter 90, Section 13) is amended to read:

7 "60-2A-13. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST.--The [~~commission~~]
8 department shall not issue [~~any~~] a license for a professional
9 contest unless it is satisfied that the promoter is the real
10 party in interest and intends to conduct, hold or give [~~such~~
11 ~~contests himself~~] the contest or unless the promoter receives
12 at least twenty-five percent of the net receipts. A license
13 may be revoked at any time if the [~~commission~~] department finds
14 that the promoter is not the real party in interest."

15 SECTION 10. Section 60-2A-14 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
16 Chapter 90, Section 14, as amended) is amended to read:

17 "60-2A-14. SUSPENSION--REVOCATION OF LICENSES.--

18 A. The commission may suspend or revoke [~~any~~] a
19 license when in its judgment the licensee:

20 (1) participated in [~~any~~] a sham or fake
21 professional contest;

22 (2) is guilty of a failure to give [~~his~~] the
23 licensee's best efforts in a professional contest;

24 (3) is guilty of [~~any~~] a foul or
25 unsportsmanlike conduct in connection with a professional

1 contest; or

2 (4) is guilty of participating in an event
3 while under the influence of illegal drugs.

4 B. Before revocation of a license, the commission
5 shall afford the licensee opportunity for a hearing, and upon
6 request of the licensee and after reasonable notice, the
7 commission shall conduct a hearing on the revocation,
8 permitting the licensee to appear personally and by counsel,
9 introduce evidence and examine and cross-examine witnesses.

10 C. A majority vote of the members of the commission
11 is required to revoke a license. The commission shall file a
12 written report of its findings, determinations and order with
13 the record of the proceedings and shall send a copy [~~thereof~~]
14 of the report to the licensee."

15 SECTION 11. Section 60-2A-16 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
16 Chapter 90, Section 16, as amended) is amended to read:

17 "60-2A-16. CONTRACTS.--

18 A. Every professional boxer, professional
19 kickboxer, professional martial artist, professional mixed
20 martial artist or sports entertainment wrestler competing in a
21 professional contest is entitled to receive a copy of a written
22 contract or agreement, approved as to form by the commission,
23 binding a licensee to pay the professional boxer, professional
24 kickboxer, professional martial artist, professional mixed
25 martial artist or sports entertainment wrestler a certain fixed

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1 fee or percentage of the gate receipts.

2 B. One copy of the contract or agreement shall be
3 filed with the executive [~~secretary~~] director of the
4 commission, and one copy shall be retained by the licensee or
5 promoter of the professional contest."

6 SECTION 12. Section 60-2A-19 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
7 Chapter 90, Section 19, as amended) is amended to read:

8 "60-2A-19. WITHHOLDING OF PURSE.--

9 A. The commission or its executive [~~secretary~~]
10 director may order a promoter to withhold a part of a purse or
11 other funds belonging or payable to a contestant, manager or
12 second if, in the judgment of the commission or the executive
13 [~~secretary~~] director, the contestant is not competing honestly
14 or to the best of the contestant's skill and ability or if the
15 manager or second has violated any of the provisions of the
16 Professional Athletic Competition Act or a rule promulgated
17 [~~under~~] pursuant to that act.

18 B. This section does not apply to any sports
19 entertainment wrestler who appears not to be competing honestly
20 or to the best of the wrestler's skill and ability.

21 C. Upon the withholding of a part of a purse
22 pursuant to this section, the commission shall immediately
23 schedule a hearing on the matter as promptly as possible. If
24 it is determined that the contestant, manager or second is not
25 entitled to a part of a share of the purse or other funds, the

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1 promoter shall turn that money over to the commission, and it
2 shall become forfeit to the state and be disposed of as are
3 fees."

4 SECTION 13. Section 60-2A-20 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
5 Chapter 90, Section 20) is amended to read:

6 "60-2A-20. ATTENDANCE AT WEIGH-INS--MEDICAL
7 EXAMINATIONS--PROFESSIONAL CONTESTS.--

8 A. The executive [~~secretary or~~] director and a
9 member of the commission shall be present at all weigh-ins
10 [~~medical examinations~~] and professional contests. [~~and~~] The
11 executive director shall see that the provisions of the
12 Professional Athletic Competition Act and the rules made
13 pursuant [~~thereto~~] to that act are strictly enforced in
14 consultation with an assigned commissioner.

15 B. Every [~~participant~~] contestant in a professional
16 [~~boxing~~] contest shall be present and weighed in no later than
17 twelve o'clock noon on the day of the professional contest."

18 SECTION 14. Section 60-2A-21 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
19 Chapter 90, Section 21, as amended) is amended to read:

20 "60-2A-21. LENGTH OF PROFESSIONAL CONTESTS--ROUNDS.--No
21 professional boxing contest shall be more than [~~fifteen~~] twelve
22 rounds in length, and each round shall not exceed three minutes
23 in length. There shall be a one-minute rest between boxing
24 rounds. The commission shall adopt rules governing the length
25 of professional kickboxing, professional martial arts,

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1 professional mixed martial arts and ~~[sports entertainment]~~
2 competitive wrestling contests; the duration of rounds; and the
3 period of rest between rounds."

4 SECTION 15. Section 60-2A-24 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
5 Chapter 90, Section 24, as amended) is amended to read:

6 "60-2A-24. ATHLETIC COMMISSION FUND.--The proceeds of
7 ~~[the regulatory fee on promotions and of the supervisory fee on~~
8 ~~closed-circuit television or motion pictures, together with~~
9 ~~any]~~ license fees ~~[or other fees]~~ authorized pursuant to the
10 Professional Athletic Competition Act shall be deposited with
11 the state treasurer to the credit of the "athletic commission
12 fund", which is hereby created. Money in the fund is subject
13 to appropriation by the legislature. Expenditures from the
14 athletic commission fund shall only be made on vouchers issued
15 and signed by the person designated by the ~~[commission]~~
16 department upon warrants drawn by the department of finance and
17 administration in accordance with the budget approved by the
18 department of finance and administration."

19 SECTION 16. Section 60-2A-29 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980,
20 Chapter 90, Section 29) is amended to read:

21 "60-2A-29. PENALTY.--~~[Any]~~ A person ~~[violating]~~ who
22 violates the provisions of the Professional Athletic
23 Competition Act is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction
24 ~~[therefor]~~ shall be punished, in the discretion of the court,
25 by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by

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1 imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed three months or
2 by both such fine and imprisonment."

3 SECTION 17. Section 60-2A-31 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1981,
4 Chapter 327, Section 1) is amended to read:

5 "60-2A-31. BOXING HEADGEAR REQUIRED WHEN UNDER FIFTEEN
6 YEARS OF AGE [PENALTY].--[A.] It is unlawful for any person to
7 permit, promote or sponsor any person under the age of fifteen
8 years to train as a boxer, engage in boxing matches or compete
9 in school boxing exhibitions or events without wearing
10 protective headgear.

11 [B. ~~Any person violating the provisions of~~
12 ~~Subsection A of this section is guilty of a petty~~
13 ~~misdemeanor.~~]"

14 SECTION 18. Section 60-2A-32 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1983,
15 Chapter 146, Section 1) is amended to read:

16 "60-2A-32. PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR REQUIRED IN ALL AMATEUR
17 BOXING.--

18 A. It is unlawful for any person to permit, sponsor
19 or promote any amateur to train as a boxer, engage in boxing
20 matches or compete in boxing events without wearing protective
21 headgear meeting the standards approved under the official
22 rules of [the] USA [amateur] boxing, [federation] incorporated.

23 B. [Any] A person [violating] who violates the
24 provisions of Subsection A of this section is guilty of a
25 misdemeanor."

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1 SECTION 19. Section 60-2A-34 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2017,
2 Chapter 52, Section 1) is amended to read:

3 "60-2A-34. UNLICENSED ACTIVITY--DISCIPLINARY
4 PROCEEDINGS--CIVIL PENALTY.--A person who is not licensed to
5 engage in a professional athletic competition activity
6 regulated by the [~~board~~] commission is subject to disciplinary
7 proceedings by the [~~board~~] commission as provided in the
8 Uniform Licensing Act. The provisions of Section 61-1-3.2 NMSA
9 1978 notwithstanding, the [~~board~~] commission may impose a civil
10 penalty in an amount not to exceed two thousand dollars
11 (\$2,000) against a person who engages in a professional
12 athletic competition activity regulated by the [~~board~~]
13 commission without a license. In addition, the [~~board~~]
14 commission may assess the person for administrative costs,
15 including investigative costs and the cost of conducting a
16 hearing."

17 SECTION 20. Section 60-2A-36 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2024,
18 Chapter 30, Section 10) is amended to read:

19 "60-2A-36. PROFESSIONAL BOXING STATE CHAMPIONS AND
20 RANKED CONTENDERS.--

21 A. The commission shall declare a state champion
22 professional boxer in each weight class.

23 B. At least two times per year, the commission
24 shall publish a list of professional boxing top ten ranked
25 contenders in each weight class.

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1 C. The professional boxing state champion shall
2 defend the championship title within six months of winning the
3 title and every six months thereafter against a challenger in
4 the champion's own weight class. If the champion does not
5 defend the title or cannot defend the title for physical
6 reasons that are permanent, the commission shall forfeit the
7 championship and declare the title vacant. In the case of a
8 champion not defending a title within six months due to illness
9 or injury that is not permanent, the champion shall submit to
10 the commission a physician's report describing the illness or
11 injury and an estimated time when the champion will be able to
12 defend the championship title. It ~~[will]~~ shall be at the
13 discretion of the commission, after considering the physician's
14 report, whether a stay of the six-month title defense
15 requirement ~~[will]~~ shall be permitted."

16 SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION.--One hundred thousand dollars
17 (\$100,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
18 regulation and licensing department for expenditure in fiscal
19 year 2027 to fund full-time employees to administer the
20 Professional Athletic Competition Act. Any unexpended balance
21 remaining at the end of fiscal year 2027 shall revert to the
22 general fund.

23 SECTION 22. REPEAL.--Sections 60-2A-7, 60-2A-23 and
24 60-2A-25 through 60-2A-28 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980, Chapter
25 90, Sections 7, 23 and 25 through 28, as amended) are repealed.

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