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HOUSE BILL NO. 1455

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled December 30, 2014

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 54.1-829 and 54.1-830 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; boxing and wrestling events; promoters.

Patrons—Miller, Villanueva and Keam

Referred to Committee on General Laws**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That §§ 54.1-829 and 54.1-830 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 54.1-829. License required; bond; physical examination; ambulance; physician; and health insurance.**

A. ~~Unless exempted by § 54.1-830, no~~ No person shall promote or conduct a boxing, martial arts, or wrestling event in the Commonwealth without first having obtained a license for such event from the Department. No such license shall be granted except to a licensed promoter.

B. ~~Unless exempted by § 54.1-830, no~~ No person shall act as a promoter, matchmaker, trainer, boxer or wrestler in the Commonwealth without first having obtained a license for such activity from the Department and such license remains in full force and effect.

C. No license to act as a promoter shall be granted unless the applicant executes and files with the Department a bond, in such penalty as the Department shall determine through regulation, conditioned on the payment of the fees and penalties imposed by this chapter and for the fulfillment of contracts made with boxers and wrestlers in accordance with Department regulations.

D. Each boxer shall, and each wrestler may, be examined prior to entering the ring by a physician who has been licensed to practice medicine in the Commonwealth for at least five years. The physician shall be appointed by the Department and shall certify in writing that the contestant's physical condition is such that he is physically able to engage in the contest.

E. No boxing event shall be conducted without the continuous presence at ringside of a physician who has been licensed to practice medicine in the Commonwealth for at least five years, and unless an ambulance is at the site of the boxing event.

F. No boxer shall participate in any event unless covered by a health insurance policy with minimum coverage in an amount determined by Department regulation.

§ 54.1-830. Exemptions.

Amateur exhibitions and the participants therein shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter provided the participants receive no money, compensation or reward other than a suitably inscribed memento for their participation. *The exemption provided by this section shall not apply to the promoter of an amateur exhibition.*

INTRODUCED

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