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HOUSE BILL NO. 1798

Offered January 10, 2007 Prefiled December 29, 2006

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 54.1-831.01, relating to the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; boxing and wrestling events; Martial Arts Advisory Board.

Patron—Cosgrove

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 54.1-831.01 as follows:

§ 54.1-831.01. Martial Arts Advisory Board created; membership; terms; compensation.

A. The Martial Arts Advisory Board (the Board) is established as an advisory board, within the meaning of § 2.2-2100, in the executive branch of state government. The Board shall advise the Director concerning regulations pertaining to the conduct of any martial arts competition involving amateurs. The Board shall consist of nine members to be appointed by the Director as follows: at least five members shall be martial arts instructors who have obtained the rank of black belt or higher, and at least one member shall be an event promoter.

B. After the original appointments, all appointments shall be for terms of four years, except that appointments to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired terms. No person shall be eligible to serve for more than two successive full terms.

C. The Board shall elect its chairman and vice-chairman from among its members. The Board shall meet monthly to conduct its business or upon the call of the Director or chair of the Board. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

D. Members of the Board shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties as provided in § 2.2-2825.

E. Such staff support as is necessary for the conduct of the Board's business shall be furnished by the Department.

2. That the initial appointments of the Martial Arts Advisory Board members in accordance with this act shall be staggered as follows: two members shall be appointed for a two-year term, three members shall be appointed for a three-year term, and four members shall be appointed for a four-year term.