

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0221

Wyoming boxing commission.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Esquibel, Illoway, Latta,  
Lockhart, Morgan, Thompson and Walsh and  
Senator(s) Decaria, Geis and Vasey

## A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the state boxing commissioner; creating  
2 an office of state boxing commissioner; providing for the  
3 appointment of a state boxing commissioner, inspectors and  
4 deputies; specifying duties; providing procedures for  
5 licensure; providing for distribution of revenues;  
6 providing penalties; granting rulemaking authority; and  
7 providing for an effective date.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 33-8-121 through 33-8-140 are created  
12 to read:

13

14 **33-8-121. State boxing commissioner; office created;**  
15 **appointment; term, office, rules and regulations;**  
16 **definitions.**

1

2           (a) There is hereby created an office known as "state  
3 boxing commissioner of Wyoming". The governor shall appoint  
4 a person to fill the office. Any resident of the state of  
5 Wyoming shall be eligible to fill the office of the state  
6 boxing commissioner. The term of office of the commissioner  
7 shall be two (2) years.

8

9           (b) The commissioner shall maintain an office for the  
10 transaction of business in the city of Cheyenne, Wyoming,  
11 but he may transact his business under this act at any  
12 place within the state of Wyoming when the convenience of  
13 the parties so requires.

14

15           (c) The commissioner shall adopt a seal and shall  
16 make rules for the administration of his office not  
17 inconsistent with this act, and may from time to time amend  
18 or repeal rules.

19

20           (d) As used in this act:

21

22                   (i) "Commissioner" means the state boxing  
23 commissioner appointed pursuant to this section;

24

1           (ii) "This act" means W.S. 33-8-121 through  
2 33-8-140.

3

4           **33-8-122. State boxing commissioner; powers and**  
5 **duties; subpoenas; oaths.**

6

7 The commissioner shall keep a full and accurate record of  
8 all his acts and doings and shall preserve at his general  
9 office all books, documents and papers. The commissioner  
10 shall prepare for service of notices and other papers as  
11 may be necessary, and shall issue subpoenas for the  
12 attendance of witnesses before him with the same effect as  
13 if they were issued in an action in the district court, and  
14 shall have power to administer oaths in all matters  
15 pertaining to the administration of his affairs as  
16 commissioner. Disobedience of such subpoenas and falsely  
17 swearing before the commissioner shall be attended by the  
18 same consequences and be subject to the same penalties as  
19 if the disobedience or false swearing occurred in an action  
20 in the district court.

21

22           **33-8-123. State boxing commissioner; per diem;**  
23 **mileage.**

24

1 The commissioner shall receive as compensation the sum of  
2 five dollars (\$5.00) for each day or fraction thereof  
3 actually spent in the performance of his duties, together  
4 with per diem and mileage allowance as allowed to state  
5 employees, payments of the same to be made out of the state  
6 boxing commissioner's appropriation. Provided, that if any  
7 state officer is appointed to act as commissioner he shall  
8 not receive the compensation for his services herein  
9 mentioned, but shall be reimbursed for any necessary  
10 expenses incurred or paid by him.

11

12 **33-8-124. State boxing commissioner; report to**  
13 **legislature.**

14

15 The commissioner shall make a full report to the  
16 legislature of all proceedings during the two (2) years  
17 preceding the first day of December before the beginning of  
18 the regular session of the legislature. The report to the  
19 legislature shall be completed and shall contain a  
20 statement of clubs, organizations or corporations, the  
21 number of licenses revoked, the gross receipts from each  
22 club, organization or corporation, and other information  
23 and comments in relation to the work of the commissioner as  
24 public interest may require.

1

2       **33-8-125. Jurisdiction over boxing matches and**  
3 **licenses; power of municipalities.**

4

5       The commissioner shall have, and is hereby vested with the  
6       sole direction, management, control of, and jurisdiction  
7       over, all boxing and sparring matches and exhibitions to be  
8       conducted, held or given within the state by any club,  
9       corporation or association and no boxing or sparring  
10      exhibitions shall be conducted, held or given within the  
11      state except pursuant to authority granted by the  
12      commissioner and in accordance with the provisions of this  
13      act and the rules and regulations of the commissioner. The  
14      commissioner may, at his discretion, issue and for cause  
15      revoke a license to conduct, hold or give boxing or  
16      sparring matches and exhibitions to any incorporated club  
17      or association formed as hereinafter provided. The  
18      commissioner shall have full power and authority to limit  
19      the number of sparring or boxing exhibitions to be held or  
20      given by any club, organization or corporation in any city  
21      in this state where boxing contests are conducted in the  
22      manner herein provided. No boxing or sparring exhibitions  
23      shall be conducted by any club, organization or corporation  
24      in the state except by a license from the state boxing

1 commissioner. Every license shall be subject to such rules  
2 as the commissioner may prescribe. It shall be lawful for  
3 any incorporated athletic club organized under the laws of  
4 the state of Wyoming, and which has been in existence for a  
5 period of not less than thirty (30) days, to arrange and  
6 provide for sparring and boxing exhibitions or contests in  
7 compliance with the provisions of this act. No provision of  
8 this act shall prevent any incorporated city or town from  
9 prohibiting or regulating by ordinance any sparring or  
10 boxing exhibition. Except as provided in W.S. 33-8-129 no  
11 sparring or boxing contest shall be held or permitted  
12 outside of the limits of an incorporated city or town.  
13 Sparring and boxing contests may be held in unincorporated  
14 towns of two thousand (2,000) inhabitants or over.

15

16 **33-8-126. Licenses required; application; fee and**  
17 **bond.**

18

19 No boxing or sparring exhibition shall be conducted by any  
20 club or organization except by license issued to the club  
21 or organization by the state boxing commissioner of  
22 Wyoming. The application for a license shall be in writing,  
23 and shall be addressed to the commissioner, and shall be  
24 verified by some officer of the club, organization or

1 corporation on whose behalf the application is made. The  
2 application shall be accompanied by a fee of ten dollars  
3 (\$10.00) for each boxing or sparring exhibition. The  
4 application shall show that the club or organization has  
5 been incorporated not less than thirty (30) days and that  
6 the club has been organized under the laws of the state of  
7 Wyoming. Before any permit or license is issued under this  
8 act to any club, organization or corporation, the applicant  
9 shall file a bond of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) with  
10 good and sufficient surety, with the state treasurer,  
11 conditioned for the faithful performance of the conditions  
12 of this act.

13

14 **33-8-127. Report of club, corporation or association;**  
15 **admission tax to be paid.**

16

17 Every club, corporation or association which may hold or  
18 exercise any of the privileges conferred by this act shall,  
19 within twenty-four (24) hours after the determination of  
20 every contest, furnish to the commissioner a written  
21 report, duly verified by one (1) of its officers, showing  
22 the number of tickets sold for the contest, and the amount  
23 of gross proceeds thereof, and other matters as the  
24 commissioner may prescribe and shall also within the time

1 prescribed by this section, pay a tax of five percent (5%)  
2 of its total gross receipts from the sale of tickets of  
3 admission, or admission fees to boxing or sparring matches  
4 or exhibitions.

5  
6 **33-8-128. Disposition of fees and taxes.**

7  
8 (a) All money shall be received and collected as  
9 provided by this act and credited by the state treasurer as  
10 follows:

11  
12 (i) One-half (1/2) of license fees and admission  
13 taxes collected to the general fund;

14  
15 (ii) One-half (1/2) of license fees to the  
16 treasury of the county in which the licensee resides; and

17  
18 (iii) One-half (1/2) of the admission tax to the  
19 treasury of the county in which the exhibition was held.

20  
21 **33-8-129. Matches under rules of amateur athletic**  
22 **union.**



1           (a) Whenever amateur boxing and sparring matches are  
2 held under the rules of the amateur athletic union, by any  
3 club or organization, the license fee required under this  
4 act or the presence of commissioner or deputy shall not be  
5 required. The matches and exhibitions shall, however, be  
6 subject to the provisions of W.S. 33-8-132 and the rules of  
7 the commissioner, provided:

8  
9           (i) Amateur boxing and sparring matches, of not  
10 more than six (6) rounds duration shall be permitted  
11 outside of incorporated cities and towns;

12  
13           (ii) The rounds under paragraph (i) of this  
14 subsection shall not be permitted to extend for a period  
15 longer than two (2) minutes.

16  
17           **33-8-130. County inspectors.**

18  
19 The commissioner shall by and with the cooperation of the  
20 county commissioners of the several counties appoint  
21 official representatives designated as inspectors or  
22 deputies for each county, each of whom shall receive from  
23 the commissioner a card, authorizing him in person or by  
24 deputy to act as an inspector wherever the commissioner may

1 designate him to act. The commissioner may, and at least  
2 one (1) inspector or deputy shall, be present at all  
3 exhibitions and matches conducted for pecuniary profit and  
4 see that the rules are strictly observed, and an inspector  
5 shall also be present at the counting up of the gross  
6 receipts, and shall immediately mail to the commissioner  
7 the official box office statement received by him from the  
8 officers of the club.

9

10 **33-8-131. Sunday matches prohibited.**

11

12 No boxing or sparring match or exhibition shall be held on  
13 Sunday.

14

15 **33-8-132. Rules for conduct of matches.**

16

17 (a) No boxing or sparring exhibitions shall be of  
18 more than fifteen (15) rounds duration, and no one (1)  
19 round of such exhibition shall be permitted to extend for a  
20 period longer than three (3) minutes.

21

22 (b) There shall be a one (1) minute intermission  
23 between rounds.

24

1           (c) No contestant shall in any such boxing or  
2 sparring exhibition wear, or be permitted to wear, gloves  
3 weighing less than five (5) ounces.

4

5           (d) No betting or wagering at any boxing or sparring  
6 contest shall be permitted by any person or persons  
7 directly associated with the boxing or sparring contest,  
8 including the contestants, spectators and members of the  
9 club or organization, before, after or during any such  
10 contest, in or around the premises where such contest is  
11 held. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to  
12 prohibit betting or wagering as may be allowed by law away  
13 from the premises where such contest is held.

14

15           (e) In all boxing or sparring contests, contestants  
16 shall break clean, and shall not hold and hit. Butting with  
17 the head or shoulder, wrestling or illegal use of elbows  
18 shall not be allowed. There shall be no unsportsmanlike  
19 conduct on the part of the contestants, including the use  
20 of abusive or insulting language.

21

22           **33-8-133. Age limit for spectators.**

23

1 No person under the age of sixteen (16) years shall be  
2 admitted to a boxing or sparring exhibition, unless  
3 accompanied by his parent, guardian or other adult  
4 relative.

5

6 **33-8-134. Examination by physician.**

7

8 Each contestant shall be examined not more than twelve (12)  
9 hours prior to entering the ring by a physician who has  
10 been licensed to practice in Wyoming and who has been  
11 designated by the commissioner. The physician shall certify  
12 in writing, over his signature, as to the contestant's  
13 physical condition to engage in the contest.

14

15 **33-8-135. Referees.**

16

17 The commissioner is authorized to grant licenses to  
18 competent referees upon the application and the payment of  
19 an annual fee of ten dollars (\$10.00), and may revoke any  
20 license granted to any referee upon such cause as the  
21 commissioner may deem sufficient. The referee shall stop  
22 the contest or match when either of the contestants shows a  
23 marked superiority or is apparently outclassed or injury is  
24 likely to result to either of the contestants.

1

2       **33-8-136. Holding fake matches.**

3

4 Any club, corporation or organization which conducts, holds  
5 or participates in any sham or fake boxing or sparring  
6 match, shall forfeit its license in accordance with the  
7 provisions of this section. The commissioner shall cancel  
8 and declare the license void and shall deny any future  
9 license application under the provisions of this act to the  
10 club, corporation, organization or its successor.

11

12       **33-8-137. Penalty for taking part in fake match.**

13

14       (a) Any contestant who shall participate in any sham  
15 or fake boxing or sparring match or violate any rule or  
16 regulation of the commissioner shall be penalized in the  
17 following manner:

18

19               (i) For the first offense he shall be restrained  
20 by order of the commissioner from participating in any  
21 boxing or sparring match or exhibition to be held or given  
22 by any club or corporation duly licensed to give or hold  
23 any boxing or sparring match or exhibition for a period of

1 not less than three (3) months nor more than one (1) year  
2 at the discretion of the commissioner;

3

4 (ii) For a second offense he shall be totally  
5 disqualified from further admission or participation in any  
6 boxing contest, held or given by any club, corporation or  
7 association, duly licensed for such purpose in this state.

8

9 **33-8-138. Failure to make reports; unsatisfactory**  
10 **reports; examination of records, officers.**

11

12 Whenever any club, corporation or association shall fail to  
13 make a report of any contest at the time prescribed by this  
14 act, or whenever the report is unsatisfactory to the  
15 commissioner, the commissioner may examine or cause to be  
16 examined, the books and records of the club, corporation or  
17 association, and subpoena and examine under oath its  
18 officers and other person or persons for witnesses for the  
19 purpose of determining the total amount of its gross  
20 receipts for any contest and the amount of taxes due  
21 pursuant to the provisions of this act, which tax he may,  
22 upon and as a result of such examination, fix and  
23 determine. Should the club, corporation or association fail  
24 to pay any taxes determined to be due, together with the

1 expenses incurred in making the examination, for a period  
2 of twenty (20) days after notice of the amount due by the  
3 commissioner, the club, corporation or association shall  
4 forfeit its license and shall be thereby disqualified from  
5 receiving any new license, or any renewal of its license.  
6 In addition, the club, corporation or association shall  
7 forfeit to the people of the state of Wyoming the bond of  
8 two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) required to be filed by  
9 W.S. 33-8-126, which may be recovered by the attorney  
10 general in the name of the people of the state of Wyoming  
11 in the same manner as other penalties are by law recovered.

12

13 **33-8-139. Weights and classes.**

14

15 The weights and classes of boxers and the rules and  
16 regulations of boxing shall be the same as the weights and  
17 classes and rules and regulations adopted by the Army, Navy  
18 and Civilian Board of Boxing and Control, Inc. and the  
19 International Sporting Club of New York, Inc. except as  
20 otherwise herein provided. No contest shall be allowed in  
21 which the difference in weight of the respective  
22 contestants shall exceed eighteen (18) pounds, but this  
23 provision shall not apply to boxers in the heavy and  
24 light-heavy weight classes.

1

2                    33-8-140.    Penalty.

3

4 Any person who violates any of the provisions of this act  
5 for which a penalty is not herein expressly prescribed  
6 shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon  
7 conviction shall be fined not to exceed seven hundred fifty  
8 dollars (\$750.00) or imprisoned in the county jail for a  
9 period not to exceed six (6) months, or be subject to both  
10 fine and imprisonment.

11

12           **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2005.

13

14 (END)