

Fifty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2356

Introduced by

Senators Flakoll, J. Lee

Representatives Koppelman, Wieland

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 53-01 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to mixed fighting style competitions; and to amend and reenact sections
3 53-01-02, 53-01-03, 53-01-07, and 53-01-17 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the
4 regulation of mixed fighting style competitions.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 53-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 created and enacted as follows:

8 **Definition of mixed fighting style competition - Prohibition.** As used in this chapter,
9 "mixed fighting style competition" means an advertised or professionally promoted exhibition or
10 contest for which any type of admission fee is charged and in which participants who receive
11 remuneration of any type inflict or employ kicks, punches, blows, holds, and other techniques to
12 injure, stun, choke, incapacitate, or disable an opponent. The techniques may include a
13 combination of boxing, kickboxing, wrestling, grappling, or other recognized martial arts.
14 Boxing and kickboxing exhibitions or contests without the combination of other techniques do
15 not constitute mixed fighting style competitions. A person may not advertise, promote, sponsor,
16 hold, or participate in any mixed fighting style competition in this state unless and until a mixed
17 fighting style advisory board is authorized and appointed and rules governing the competitions
18 have been adopted by the secretary of state under this chapter.

19 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 53-01-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
20 amended and reenacted as follows:

21 **53-01-02. Administration by secretary of state - Appointment of athletic advisory**
22 **board and mixed fighting style advisory board.** The secretary of state shall act as state
23 athletic commissioner and administer this chapter. The secretary of state may appoint an
24 athletic advisory board to assist and advise the secretary of state in matters relating to the

1 regulation of boxing, kickboxing, and sparring. The secretary of state may also appoint a mixed
2 fighting style advisory board whose members may include one or more members of the athletic
3 advisory board. The secretary of state shall define the duties of the ~~board~~ boards. Members of
4 the ~~board~~ boards shall serve without compensation, except for reimbursement for actual and
5 necessary expenses at the same rate as allowed state employees incurred in performing their
6 official duties.

7 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 53-01-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
8 amended and reenacted as follows:

9 **53-01-03. Restrictions.** The secretary of state may not promote, directly or indirectly,
10 ~~promote~~ any boxing, kickboxing, mixed fighting style competition, or sparring exhibition, engage
11 in the managing of any boxer ~~or~~, kickboxer, or mixed style fighter, or be interested in any
12 manner in the proceeds from any boxing, kickboxing, mixed fighting style competition, or
13 sparring exhibition.

14 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 53-01-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is
15 amended and reenacted as follows:

16 **53-01-07. Duties of state athletic commissioner.** The secretary of state shall
17 supervise all boxing, kickboxing, mixed fighting style competitions, or sparring exhibitions held
18 in the state and may:

- 19 1. Adopt rules governing the conduct of boxing, kickboxing, mixed fighting style
20 competitions, and sparring exhibitions.
- 21 2. Establish license fees for all boxers, kickboxers, mixed style fighters, boxing ~~and~~,
22 kickboxing, and mixed fighting style competition promoters, managers, judges,
23 timekeepers, cornerpersons, knockdown counters, matchmakers, and referees or
24 other participants.
- 25 3. Establish by rule a fee based on the percentage of gross revenues from any
26 boxing, kickboxing, mixed fighting style competition, or sparring exhibition held in
27 this state to pay for the expenses of members of the athletic advisory board or the
28 mixed fighting style advisory board. A fee established under this subsection may
29 not exceed one percent of the gross revenues of the exhibition from any and all
30 sources including cable television and pay-per-view telecasts of the event,
31 exclusive of any federal tax thereon.

1 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 53-01-17 of the North Dakota Century Code is
2 amended and reenacted as follows:

3 **53-01-17. Exhibitions also governed by local ordinance.** Boxing, kickboxing, or
4 sparring exhibitions may not be held in cities in which such contests or exhibitions are declared
5 illegal by ordinance. All boxing, kickboxing, mixed fighting style competitions, or sparring
6 exhibitions held in any city in this state must be held in conformity with the ordinances of the city
7 in addition to the requirements under this chapter.