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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 to establish requirements for unified boxing organizations, to further enhance the well-being of professional boxers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JACK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To amend the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 to establish requirements for unified boxing organizations, to further enhance the well-being of professional boxers, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Muhammad Ali Amer-
5 ican Boxing Revival Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

7 The purposes of this Act are—

1 (1) to provide increased choice and opportunity
2 to professional boxers by allowing a professional
3 boxer to choose to participate in the alternative sys-
4 tem offered by a unified boxing organization; and
5 (2) to further enhance safety precautions that
6 protect the well-being of professional boxers.

7 **SEC. 3. UNIFIED BOXING ORGANIZATIONS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Professional Boxing Safety
9 Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended by add-
10 ing at the end the following:

11 **“SEC. 24. UNIFIED BOXING ORGANIZATIONS.**

12 “(a) ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM FOR COMPLIANCE WITH
13 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ACT.—A unified boxing or-
14 ganization (in this section referred to as a ‘UBO’) shall
15 be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of
16 this Act if the UBO meets the conditions of this section
17 with respect to—

18 “(1) each boxer under contract with the UBO;
19 and

20 “(2) each professional boxing match organized
21 by the UBO (in this section referred to as a ‘covered
22 match’).

23 “(b) SAFETY AND INDUSTRY STANDARDS.—A condi-
24 tion of this section is that a UBO meets the requirements
25 of section 5.

1 “(c) MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.—

2 “(1) ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS.—

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this
4 section is that a UBO ensures that each boxer
5 who participates in a covered match undergoes
6 a medical examination conducted by a licensed
7 physician that measures the overall health con-
8 dition of the boxer and affirms the fitness of
9 the boxer to safely participate in a covered
10 match.

11 “(B) ELEMENTS.—A medical examination
12 under subparagraph (A) shall include the fol-
13 lowing:

14 “(i) A physical examination.

15 “(ii) An eye examination.

16 “(iii) A human immunodeficiency
17 virus test.

18 “(iv) A hepatitis B surface antigen
19 test.

20 “(v) A hepatitis C antibody test.

21 “(C) FREQUENCY.—A medical examination
22 of a boxer under subparagraph (A) shall
23 occur—

1 “(i) on or before the date on which
2 the boxer participates in the first covered
3 match of the boxer; and

4 “(ii) at least annually thereafter.

5 “(2) PREGNANCY TESTS.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this
7 section is that a UBO ensures that a female
8 boxer who participates in a covered match un-
9 dergoes, for each such match, a blood test that
10 affirms that the boxer is not pregnant.

11 “(B) TIMING.—A pregnancy test con-
12 ducted under subparagraph (A) with respect to
13 a covered match shall be carried out during the
14 14-day period preceding the date of the match.

15 “(3) MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING TESTS.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this
17 section is that a UBO ensures that each boxer
18 who participates in a covered match undergoes
19 the following tests that measure any abnor-
20 mality in the brain of the boxer and affirm the
21 fitness of the boxer to safely participate in a
22 covered match:

23 “(i) A magnetic resonance imaging
24 test of the brain.

1 “(ii) A magnetic resonance
2 angiography test of the brain.

3 “(B) FREQUENCY.—Except as provided
4 under subparagraph (C), the tests to be con-
5 ducted under subparagraph (A) shall occur—

6 “(i) on or before the date on which
7 the boxer participates in the first covered
8 match of the boxer; and

9 “(ii) at least every three years there-
10 after.

11 “(C) SPECIAL RULE.—

12 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding
13 subparagraph (B), in the case of a boxer
14 who suffers a knockout during a covered
15 match, a UBO shall require more frequent
16 tests under this paragraph.

17 “(ii) COST.—The cost of a test under
18 this subparagraph shall be the financial re-
19 sponsibility of the UBO concerned.

20 “(4) SUPPLEMENTAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION
21 FOR BOXERS WHO ARE 40 YEARS OF AGE OR
22 OLDER.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this
24 section is that a UBO ensures that a boxer who
25 participates in a covered match at the age of 40

1 or older undergoes, in addition to the medical
2 examination required under this subsection, a
3 supplemental medical examination conducted by
4 a licensed physician that affirms the fitness of
5 the boxer to safely participate in a covered
6 match.

7 “(B) ELEMENTS.—A supplemental medical
8 examination under subparagraph (A) shall in-
9 clude the following:

10 “(i) A chest X-ray.

11 “(ii) An electrocardiogram.

12 “(iii) A urinalysis to measure the
13 overall health condition of the boxer.

14 “(iv) A comprehensive metabolic panel
15 blood test.

16 “(C) FREQUENCY.—The tests to be con-
17 ducted under subparagraph (B) shall occur at
18 least annually, except that a chest X-ray under
19 subparagraph (B)(i) shall occur at least once
20 every six years.

21 “(d) PROVISION OF MEDICAL CARE DURING
22 MATCHES.—

23 “(1) AMBULANCES.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this
25 section is that, as a prerequisite for a covered

1 match, a UBO provides, at a minimum, two
2 ambulances present on site of the match,
3 throughout the duration of the match, in addi-
4 tion to the ambulance required to be present on
5 site of the match under section 5(a)(2).

6 “(B) USE OF AMBULANCES.—An ambu-
7 lance provided for a match under subparagraph
8 (A) shall be for the exclusive use of any boxer
9 participating in the match.

10 “(C) REPLACEMENT AMBULANCE.—If an
11 ambulance provided for a match under subpara-
12 graph (A) leaves the site of the match, the
13 UBO shall replace the unit with another ambu-
14 lance.

15 “(2) RINGSIDE PRESENCE.—A condition of this
16 section is that, as a prerequisite for a covered
17 match, a UBO provides, at a minimum, three li-
18 censed physicians, who shall be continuously present
19 at ringside during the match, in addition to the li-
20 censed physician required to be present at ringside
21 during the match under section 5(a)(3).

22 “(3) COST.—The cost of satisfying the condi-
23 tions of this subsection shall be the financial respon-
24 sibility of the UBO concerned.

1 “(e) SUPPORT SERVICES FOR BOXERS UNDER CON-
2 TRACT WITH A UBO.—

3 “(1) EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES FOR TRAIN-
4 ING AND REHABILITATION.—A condition of this sec-
5 tion is that, during the period in which a boxer is
6 under contract with a UBO, the UBO ensures that
7 the boxer has access to equipment and facilities that
8 are operated by the UBO for training and rehabilita-
9 tion.

10 “(2) INSURANCE POLICY.—In addition to pro-
11 viding health insurance under section 5(a)(4), a con-
12 dition of this section is that, during the period in
13 which a boxer is under contract with a UBO, the
14 UBO ensures that the boxer has in effect an insur-
15 ance policy that provides medical coverage for any
16 injury sustained by the boxer during the period of
17 training for a covered match.

18 “(3) MEDICAL COORDINATOR.—A condition of
19 this section is that, during the period in which a
20 boxer is under contract with a UBO, the UBO as-
21 signs a medical coordinator to the boxer to assist the
22 boxer with satisfying medical and licensing require-
23 ments related to the participation of the boxer in a
24 covered match.

1 “(4) COST.—The cost of satisfying the condi-
2 tions of this subsection shall be the financial respon-
3 sibility of the UBO concerned, except the cost of any
4 deductible for health insurance under paragraph (2)
5 shall be the financial responsibility of the boxer con-
6 cerned.

7 “(f) ANTI-DOPING PROGRAM.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this section
9 is that a UBO has in effect a comprehensive anti-
10 doping program that includes the testing and re-
11 quirements related to such testing under this sub-
12 section.

13 “(2) IN-COMPETITION TESTING.—As a pre-
14 requisite for a covered match, the UBO shall ensure
15 that testing is conducted for at least half the boxers
16 participating in the matches organized by the UBO
17 for an event that—

18 “(A) occurs during the period beginning on
19 the date of a weigh-in for the match and ending
20 on the date of the match; and

21 “(B) determines whether a boxer is posi-
22 tive or negative for each substance prohibited
23 by—

24 “(i) the boxing commission of the
25 State in which the match is held; or

1 “(ii) in the case of a covered match
2 held within a reservation (as defined by
3 section 21), the tribal organization (as de-
4 fined by section 21 and that meets the re-
5 quirements of section 21) regulating the
6 match.

7 “(3) NO-NOTICE TESTING.—During the period
8 in which a boxer is under contract with a UBO, the
9 UBO may conduct testing—

10 “(A) with no advance notice to the boxer;
11 and

12 “(B) that determines whether a boxer is
13 positive or negative for each substance prohib-
14 ited by the UBO.

15 “(4) ADMINISTRATION OF TESTS.—An inde-
16 pendent third-party shall conduct the testing under
17 paragraphs (2) and (3), including with respect to—

18 “(A) carrying out each test;

19 “(B) determining the result of each test;

20 and

21 “(C) reporting a positive result of a test
22 to—

23 “(i) the UBO concerned; and

24 “(ii) if applicable—

1 “(I) the boxing commission of the
2 State in which a covered match is
3 held; or

4 “(II) the Association of Boxing
5 Commissions.

6 “(5) PENALTIES.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A UBO shall imple-
8 ment any penalty decided—

9 “(i) with respect to a positive test re-
10 sult received under paragraph (4) related
11 to the testing conducted under paragraph
12 (2), by—

13 “(I) the boxing commission of the
14 State in which a covered match is
15 held; or

16 “(II) the Association of Boxing
17 Commissions; and

18 “(ii) with respect to a positive test re-
19 sult reported by an independent third-
20 party under paragraph (4) related to the
21 testing conducted under paragraph (3), by
22 the independent third-party.

23 “(B) ASSESSMENT FOR PENALTIES.—In
24 imposing a penalty on a boxer for whom the
25 independent third-party reports a positive test

1 result under paragraph (4), the boxing commis-
2 sion, the Association of Boxing Commissions, or
3 the independent third-party described in sub-
4 paragraph (A) should assess—

5 “(i) the seriousness of the positive
6 test result in relation to the participation
7 of the boxer in a covered match; and

8 “(ii) the degree to which the boxer is
9 at fault for the positive test result.

10 “(6) LIST OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES AND
11 PENALTIES.—A UBO shall publish, and make avail-
12 able to the public on an on-going basis, a list that
13 identifies—

14 “(A) each substance tested for under the
15 anti-doping program of the UBO; and

16 “(B) each penalty imposed on a boxer
17 under paragraph (5).

18 “(7) CONTRACT REQUIREMENT.—A UBO shall
19 include in any contract entered into between the
20 UBO and a boxer regarding participation in covered
21 matches such terms and conditions as may be nec-
22 essary to require the boxer to submit to testing
23 under this subsection during the period of the con-
24 tract.

1 “(8) COST.—The cost of the anti-doping pro-
2 gram may not be the financial responsibility of the
3 boxer concerned.

4 “(g) BOXING CONDUCT POLICY.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this section
6 is that a UBO implements and ensures compliance
7 with a comprehensive boxing conduct policy that
8 prohibits a boxer, or any covered individual, who is
9 directly involved with or participates in a covered
10 match from—

11 “(A) placing a bet or wager, directly or
12 through a third party, on the match; and

13 “(B) sharing non-public information with a
14 third party that is material to the performance
15 of a boxer participating in the match or the
16 outcome of the match for the purpose of assist-
17 ing the third party in placing a bet or wager on
18 the match.

19 “(2) COMPLIANCE.—A UBO shall implement
20 and ensure compliance with procedures for moni-
21 toring and enforcing compliance with the boxing
22 conduct policy implemented under paragraph (1).

23 “(3) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this
24 subsection, the term ‘covered individual’ means, with

1 respect to a boxer who participates in a covered
2 match, any of the following:

3 “(A) An adult living in the same household
4 as the boxer.

5 “(B) A coach, manager, or athletic trainer
6 of the boxer.

7 “(C) A physician or other medical profes-
8 sional who provides services to the boxer.

9 “(D) An employee, officer, or director of
10 the UBO concerned.

11 “(E) An agent of any such person who is
12 directly involved with or participates in a cov-
13 ered match.

14 “(h) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—A condition of this
15 section is that a UBO implements prohibitions against the
16 following:

17 “(1) Any direct or indirect financial interest in
18 the management of a boxer in relation to the partici-
19 pation of the boxer in a covered match.

20 “(2) Employment of, or making a payment to,
21 a manager who represents a boxer who participates
22 in a covered match, except—

23 “(A) when the boxer acts as their own
24 manager; or

1 “(B) for any consideration paid by the
2 UBO to the manager under the contract be-
3 tween the manager and the boxer.

4 “(3) Receiving or requesting from a boxer the
5 payment of a fee related to—

6 “(A) the ranking of the boxer; and

7 “(B) the participation of the boxer in a
8 covered match—

9 “(i) including any fee related to a
10 boxer participating in a covered match in
11 which the boxer will be challenging a
12 champion or defending a championship, in-
13 cluding any award; and

14 “(ii) excluding any cost related to a
15 boxer reimbursing a UBO for reasonable
16 expenses incurred by the UBO on behalf of
17 the boxer in relation to the participation of
18 the boxer in a covered match, including
19 any medical expense and travel expense.

20 “(i) BOXING COMMISSIONS.—

21 “(1) PROHIBITION.—A condition of this section
22 is that a covered match may not be held—

23 “(A) in a State without a boxing commis-
24 sion; or

1 “(B) within a reservation (as defined by
2 section 21) under the jurisdiction of a tribal or-
3 ganization (as defined by section 21) that does
4 not meet the requirements of section 21.

5 “(2) JUDGES AND REFEREES.—A condition of
6 this section is that a UBO meets the requirements
7 of section 16.

8 “(j) FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION FILING.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A condition of this section
10 is that, on the date in which a UBO intends to claim
11 status as a UBO for purposes of this section, the
12 UBO submits to the Federal Trade Commission and
13 to the Association of Boxing Commissions informa-
14 tion regarding the UBO, including the following:

15 “(A) The State in which the UBO is incor-
16 porated.

17 “(B) The business address of the UBO.

18 “(C) The website of the UBO.

19 “(2) FORMAT; UPDATES.—To meet the condi-
20 tion of this subsection, the UBO shall—

21 “(A) provide the information described in
22 paragraph (1) in—

23 “(i) writing; and

24 “(ii) for any document greater than 2
25 pages in length, electronic form; and

1 “(B) promptly notify the Federal Trade
2 Commission of any material change in the in-
3 formation submitted.

4 “(3) FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION TO MAKE
5 INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC.—The Federal
6 Trade Commission—

7 “(A) shall make information received
8 under this subsection available to the public;
9 and

10 “(B) may assess the UBO a fee to offset
11 the costs the Commission incurs in processing
12 the information and in making the information
13 available to the public.

14 “(4) INTERNET ALTERNATIVE.—In lieu of sub-
15 mitting the information described in paragraph (1)
16 to the Federal Trade Commission, a UBO may pro-
17 vide the information to the general public by main-
18 taining a website on the Internet that meets the fol-
19 lowing requirements:

20 “(A) Is readily accessible by the general
21 public using generally available search engines.

22 “(B) For full access to the information,
23 does not require a password or payment of a
24 fee.

1 “(C) Contains the information described in
2 paragraph (1) in a format that is easy to search
3 and use.

4 “(D) Is updated when there is a material
5 change in the information.

6 “(k) RELATIONSHIP WITH STATE LAW.—Nothing in
7 this section shall prohibit a State from adopting or enforce-
8 ing supplemental laws or regulations not inconsistent with
9 this section, or criminal, civil, or administrative fines for
10 violations of such laws or regulations.”.

11 (b) ENFORCEMENT.—Section 18(b) of the Profes-
12 sional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6309(b)) is
13 amended by adding at the end the following:

14 “(5) UNIFIED BOXING ORGANIZATIONS.—Any
15 officer or employee of a unified boxing organization
16 who willfully and knowingly violates, or coerces or
17 causes any other person to violate, section 24 shall,
18 upon conviction, be imprisoned for not more than 1
19 year or fined not more than \$20,000, or both.”.

20 (c) DEFINITION.—Section 2 of the Professional Box-
21 ing Safety Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6301) is amended by
22 adding at the end the following:

23 “(16) UNIFIED BOXING ORGANIZATION.—The
24 term ‘unified boxing organization’ means an associa-

1 tion, a league, or a centralized industry organization
2 in the private sector that—

3 “(A) organizes a professional boxing match
4 in a system in which a boxer under contract
5 with such association, league, or centralized in-
6 dustry organization competes against another
7 such boxer pursuant to unified rules; and

8 “(B) without reliance on a sanctioning or-
9 ganization operating independently of such as-
10 sociation, league, or centralized industry organi-
11 zation, implements a system for title belts and
12 ranking for boxers under contract with such as-
13 sociation, league, or centralized industry organi-
14 zation.”.

15 **SEC. 4. BOXING INDUSTRY STANDARDS.**

16 (a) BOXER SAFETY AND INDUSTRY STANDARDS.—
17 Section 5 of the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996
18 (15 U.S.C. 6304) is amended—

19 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “**AND**
20 **INDUSTRY**” after “**SAFETY**”;

21 (2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

22 (A) by striking “No person” and inserting
23 the following:

24 “(a) HEALTH AND SAFETY OF BOXERS.—No per-
25 son”; and

1 (B) by inserting “, at a minimum,” after
2 “that provides”;

3 (3) in subsection (a), as so designated—

4 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, in-
5 cluding an eye examination and blood work,”
6 after “physical examination”; and

7 (B) by striking paragraph (4) and insert-
8 ing the following:

9 “(4) For each boxer, health insurance that—

10 “(A) provides a minimum of \$25,000 in
11 medical coverage for any injuries sustained in
12 the match; and

13 “(B) with respect to any premium, is not
14 the financial responsibility of the boxer.”; and

15 (4) by adding after subsection (a), as des-
16 ignated by paragraph (2) of this subsection, the fol-
17 lowing:

18 “(b) MINIMUM PAYMENT TO BOXERS.—A promoter
19 or unified boxing organization shall pay a minimum of
20 \$150 to each boxer for each round in a match in which
21 the boxer participates.”.

22 (b) JUDGES AND REFEREES.—Section 16 of the Pro-
23 fessional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6307h)
24 is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 16 JUDGES AND REFEREES.**

2 “‘No person may arrange, promote, organize, produce,
3 or fight in a professional boxing match unless all referees
4 and judges participating in the match have been certified
5 and approved by—

6 “(1) the boxing commission responsible for reg-
7 ulating the match in the State where the match is
8 held; or

9 “(2) the Association of Boxing Commissions.”.

10 (c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Section 23 of the Profes-
11 sional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 (15 U.S.C. 6301) is
12 amended by adding at the end the following:

13 “(3) The amendments made in section 4(a) of
14 the Muhammad Ali American Boxing Revival Act
15 shall take effect 30 days after the date of enactment
16 of such Act.”.