

HB 1600 -- AMATEUR MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

SPONSOR: Roorda

This bill establishes specific criteria that must be met prior to being approved as an amateur sanctioning organization for amateur mixed martial arts and amateur kickboxing by the Office of Athletics in the Division of Professional Registration within the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration.

Applicants for licensure are required to:

- (1) Provide substantially similar protection for the health, safety, and welfare of a contestant as required for professional boxing; professional mixed martial arts; and professional kickboxing in this state;
- (2) Establish nationally consistent competition rules and regulations to differentiate professional from amateur competitors for the safety of the athletes;
- (3) Mandate the safety requirements, establish the medical requirements of all promotions, and provide the method of training of officials;
- (4) Be exclusively or primarily in the business of sanctioning the sport of mixed martial arts and kickboxing;
- (5) Be organized under Section 501(c)(3) as a nonprofit corporation, in good standing with its state of incorporation, and operate as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation for a minimum of 10 years;
- (6) Provide corporate statutes and bylaws written to follow the federal Ted Stevens Amateur Olympic Sports Act; and
- (7) Limit its participation in its events to its registered members.