

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 370

H.P. 277

House of Representatives, February 5, 2009

An Act To Allow Mixed Martial Arts Competitions in Maine

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative TUTTLE of Sanford.
Cosponsored by Senator PERRY of Penobscot, Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland and
Representatives: GREELEY of Levant, HANLEY of Gardiner, HASKELL of Portland,
WHEELER of Kittery, Senators: DAVIS of Cumberland, GERZOFKY of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 8 MRSA c. 20** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 20**

4 **MIXED MARTIAL ARTS**

5 **§511. Mixed martial arts**

6 A mixed martial arts match, competition or exhibition that is licensed may be
7 held or conducted within this State in accordance with this chapter and the rules
8 adopted pursuant to this chapter. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall adopt
9 routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A to implement
10 this chapter.

11 For the purposes of this section, "mixed martial arts" means a no-holds-barred,
12 full-contact combat sport that includes a mixture of boxing, wrestling and martial arts
13 traditions, including striking and grappling techniques.

14 **§512. Fees; prosecutions**

15 A municipality may grant a license for a mixed martial arts match, competition or
16 exhibition under section 511 upon receiving a sum that the municipality determines
17 proper, 24 hours or more being allowed for the match, competition or exhibition as
18 the municipality may determine. The municipality shall prosecute, by complaint for
19 the use of the municipality, all violations of this chapter.

20 A mixed martial arts match, competition or exhibition may not operate in this
21 State without first paying a license fee for each calendar year. Application for the
22 license must be made to the Commissioner of Public Safety and must contain the
23 name of the person holding or conducting the mixed martial arts matches,
24 competitions and exhibitions and the names of the cities and towns in which the
25 mixed martial arts matches, competitions and exhibitions are to be held or conducted.

26 The Commissioner of Public Safety shall establish by rule the fee for a mixed
27 martial arts match, competition or exhibition license.

28 The exhibiting of any mixed martial arts match, competition or exhibition
29 contrary to this section is a civil violation, and the person, manager or officer in
30 charge of the mixed martial arts match, competition or exhibition within the State is
31 subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000. The District Court in the county where a
32 mixed martial arts match, competition or exhibition is held has jurisdiction over the
33 violation.

34 **Sec. 2. 17-A MRSA §515, sub-§2,** as enacted by PL 1975, c. 499, §1, is
35 amended to read:

2. This section ~~shall~~ does not apply to any mixed martial arts as defined by Title 8, section 511 or boxing contest or exhibition:

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- ~~A. Conducted by license and permit of the Maine State Boxing Commission; or~~
- B. Under the auspices of a nonprofit organization at which no admission charge is made.

SUMMARY

This bill allows mixed martial arts matches, competitions and exhibitions to be held in Maine.