

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 399

House of Representatives, March 25, 1921.

Reported by Mr. Maher from Committee on Judiciary and
ordered printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-ONE

AN ACT to Regulate Boxing Exhibitions Within the State of
Maine

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

Section 1. A boxing commission of three members, com-
2 posed as hereinafter designated, is hereby created for each
3 town and city within the state. In all cities the boxing com-
4 mission shall be appointed by the mayor. The terms of the
5 first three appointed shall be one, two and three years re-
6 spectively. All succeeding terms shall be for three years so
7 that the term of one member shall expire each year. In
8 case any member does not serve his full term the person
9 succeeding shall be appointed for the unexpired term. In
10 towns the three selectmen shall be the boxing commission.

11 The members of the boxing commission shall serve without
12 pay.

Sect. 2. The boxing commission herein created may grant
2 licenses to persons, firms, corporations, and associations to
3 conduct boxing and sparring matches within their jurisdic-
4 tion. Each applicant for a license must file with his applica-
5 tion the license fee which shall be fixed by the boxing com-
6 mission at not less than fifteen nor more than fifty dollars.
7 The boxing commission shall examine all applicants for a
8 license and refuse all licenses unless they are satisfied that
9 the applicant will conduct his matches in accordance with
10 this law and all lawful regulations made by the boxing com-
11 mission.

Sect. 3. The boxing commission shall also grant licenses
2 to persons to act as referee, and said license may be revoked
3 at discretion of said commission. All applicants for this
4 license shall deposit with his application a fee of five dol-
5 lars. The applicant for this license must satisfy the boxing
6 commission that he is qualified to act as referee and is ac-
7 quainted with the provisions of the laws of the state of
8 Maine relating to boxing.

Sect. 4. No license shall be granted to any party under
2 section two of this act until the applicant has filed with the
3 commission a bond running to the commission in the penal
4 sum of two thousand dollars with surety or sureties ap-
5 proved by the commission conditioned upon compliance by
6 the licensee with the laws of the state relating to boxing in-

7 cluding this act and all lawful regulations made by the box-
8 ing commission. The county attorney shall prosecute all
9 persons who forfeit their bond and all amounts so recov-
10 ered shall be paid to the treasurer of state.

Sect. 5. No boxing or sparring exhibition shall be held
2 unless one member of the boxing commission, or some per-
3 son deputized to act for said commission, is present. The
4 commission shall have authority to declare forfeited any
5 remuneration or prize or any part thereof offered for any
6 contest conducted under this act, where one or more of the
7 contestants do not act in good faith. The commission may
8 when satisfied that one or both contestants are not acting
9 in good faith order the prize, purse or any part thereof,
10 confiscated and sold and the proceeds given to the local char-
11 ities.

Sect. 6. No boxer shall be permitted to take part in any
2 bout in a city in which he is a resident unless his name is
3 listed on a file kept by the commission, or in a city in which
4 he is not a resident unless he is able to present from the
5 commission in his home city a signed statement that he is
6 in good standing on its lists; or if from another state, un-
7 less he files with the commission within seven days before
8 the bout a certificate from the boxing authorities of the
9 state in which he is a resident, showing that he is in good
10 standing on their list; or if from a state which does not
11 license boxers, he shall present, within seven days before
12 the bout, a certificate of his good standing signed by a re-

13 putable boxing authority, other than his manager. The box-
14 er's application for registration shall give his correct name,
15 nickname, age, weight, nationality, color and medical his-
16 tory, in brief; proper blanks to be furnished for boxers to
17 fill out by the commission. The annual registration fee shall
18 be fifty cents, payable to the commission, by whom it may
19 be used for clerical work.

Sect. 7. Boxing or sparring matches and exhibitions shall
2 not exceed twelve rounds in length and no round shall ex-
3 ceed three minutes. The contestants shall wear gloves, dur-
4 ing the contest, weighing at least six ounces which are in
5 good condition and have not been tampered with by push-
6 ing back the padding from the knuckles. There shall not
7 be more than five pounds difference in the weight of the
8 contestants. No contestant shall participate in more than
9 twelve rounds in twenty-four hours.

Sect. 8. At any boxing or sparring match or exhibition
2 conducted under this act there shall be in attendance a duly
3 qualified and reputable physician, designated by the boxing
4 commission whose duty it shall be to observe the physical
5 condition of the boxers and advise the referee with regard
6 to the same. No boxer shall be permitted to enter the ring
7 unless he exhibits to the referee a certificate in writing by a
8 reputable physician that he has examined him within three
9 hours of the time set for the match stating that the boxer is
10 physically fitted to engage in the contest. The physician's fee
11 shall be paid by the person conducting the match. The com-

mission may in their discretion designate the doctor who shall make the examination.

Sect. 9. At every boxing or sparring match or exhibition held under this act there shall be in attendance a referee licensed under section three of this act. The referee shall exercise control of the match and shall have full power to stop the match whenever he deems it advisable, because of the physical condition of one or both of the contestants, or when one of the contestants is clearly outmatched or when in his judgment for other reasons the match should not proceed. At the termination of each match the referee shall render his decision as to the merits of the opponents. The fee of the referee and other officials shall be paid by the parties holding the license to conduct the match.

Sect. 10. There shall not be allowed to attend the match more persons than can safely be accommodated within the hall or portion thereof used for the match. It shall be the duty of the party licensed to conduct the match to enforce this provision.

Sect. 11. Whoever bets or wagers or sells pools on any boxing match or sparring match or exhibition shall be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars or by imprisonment not exceeding three months or by both fine and imprisonment.

Sect. 12. No boxing or sparring match or exhibition for a prize or a purse, or at which an admission fee is charged, either directly or indirectly, in the form of dues or other-

4 wise, shall take place in this state unless in accordance with
5 this act. Each person violating any of the provisions of this
6 act shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one hundred
7 dollars or by imprisonment not exceeding one year or by
8 both such fine and imprisonment. No contestant under
9 eighteen years of age shall be allowed to participate in any
10 boxing or sparring match or exhibition. No contest shall
11 take place on Sunday. No spectator under the age of six-
12 teen years shall be permitted to attend any contest held un-
13 der this act.

Sect. 13. The boxing commission shall account to the city
2 or town for all fees received by it. All licenses given by
3 the boxing commission shall expire on August thirty-first of
4 the year in which they are issued. No license shall be good
5 outside of the city or town where issued. In case the box-
6 ing commission refuses to grant the application under sec-
7 tions two and three of this act for licenses, the money of
8 the applicant shall be returned to him.

Sect. 14. This act shall constitute an exception to chapter
2 one hundred and twenty-five, section four of the revised
3 statutes. Chapter one hundred and twenty-five, section five
4 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed.