SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 4295

A bill to regulate amateur mixed martial arts; to create the mixed martial arts commission and establish its powers and duties; to provide certain powers and duties for certain state agencies and departments; to license and regulate promoters of amateur mixed martial arts contests and events; to assess certain fees and fines; to establish the amateur mixed martial arts fund and provide for the use of the money in the fund; to authorize the promulgation of rules; and to provide penalties and remedies.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
- 2 "amateur mixed martial arts regulatory act".
- 3 Sec. 3. As used in this act:
- 4 (a) "Amateur" means an individual mixed martial artist who is
- 5 not competing and has never competed in a mixed martial arts

- 1 contest for a prize or who is not competing and has never competed
- 2 with or against a professional in a mixed martial arts contest for
- 3 a prize.
- 4 (b) "Applicant" means an individual who applies for a license
- 5 under this act.
- 6 (c) "Commission" means the amateur mixed martial arts
- 7 commission created in section 7.
- 8 (d) "Contest" does not include a mixed martial arts
- 9 exhibition.
- 10 (e) "Contestant" means an individual who competes in an
- 11 amateur mixed martial arts contest or event.
- 12 (f) "Department" means the department of licensing and
- 13 regulatory affairs.
- 14 (g) "Director" means the director of the department or his or
- 15 her designee.
- 16 (h) "Event" means a program of 1 or more individual amateur
- 17 mixed martial arts contests.
- (i) "Fund" means the amateur mixed martial arts fund created
- 19 in section 9.
- 20 (j) "License" means the document issued to an individual under
- 21 this act that enables him or her to engage in an activity that
- 22 would otherwise be prohibited under this act. The term includes an
- 23 initial license and any renewal license issued to an individual.
- 24 (k) "Medical professional" means any of the following:
- 25 (i) An individual who has a specialty certification as a nurse
- 26 practitioner under article 15 of the public health code, 1978 PA
- 27 368, MCL 333.16101 to 333.18838.

- 1 (ii) A physician's assistant licensed under article 15 of the
- 2 public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.16101 to 333.18838.
- 3 (iii) A physician as defined in section 17001 or 17501 of the
- 4 public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.17001 and 333.17501.
- 5 (1) "Mixed martial arts" means the general term that describes
- 6 the convergence of techniques from a variety of combative sports
- 7 disciplines. The term includes boxing, wrestling, judo, jujitsu,
- 8 kickboxing, and other combination of techniques from different
- 9 disciplines of the martial arts.
- 10 (m) "Mixed martial arts exhibition" means a performance or
- 11 demonstration of mixed martial arts that meets all of the
- 12 following:
- 13 (i) The performance or demonstration is held at a promoter's
- 14 gym, dojo, or similar training facility or at a training center.
- 15 (ii) Participants in the performance or demonstration do not
- 16 pay a fee to participate.
- 17 (iii) Spectators do not pay a fee to attend the performance or
- 18 demonstration.
- (n) "Prize" means money or another form of compensation or
- 20 reward offered or given to a contestant. The term does not include
- 21 a watch, medal, article of jewelry, trophy, or ornament that is
- 22 suitably inscribed to show that it is given for participation in a
- 23 contest or event and costs \$200.00 or less.
- (o) "Professional" means an individual who is competing or has
- 25 competed in the past for a prize in any sport regulated under the
- 26 Michigan unarmed combat regulatory act, 2004 PA 403, MCL 338.3601
- **27** to 338.3663.

- 1 (p) "Promoter" means an individual who produces or stages an
- 2 amateur mixed martial arts contest or event. The term does not
- 3 include the venue where a contest or event is held unless the venue
- 4 contracts with the individual promoter to be a copromoter.
- 5 (q) "Proper medical clearance" means a certification by a
- 6 medical professional that a contestant is fit to compete in a
- 7 contest.
- 8 (r) "Training center" means an institution formed or operated
- 9 principally to provide instruction in mixed martial arts.
- Sec. 5. This act does not apply to any of the following:
- 11 (a) Amateur wrestling.
- 12 (b) Amateur martial arts sports or activities held by and at a
- 13 public or private training center.
- 14 (c) A mixed martial arts exhibition.
- 15 (d) A contest or event conducted by or participated in
- 16 exclusively by an agency of the United States government, by a
- 17 school, college, or university, or by an organization composed
- 18 exclusively of those entities, if each contestant is an amateur.
- 19 Sec. 7. (1) The amateur mixed martial arts commission is
- 20 created as an advisory body within the department. All of the
- 21 following apply to the commission:
- 22 (a) The commission shall establish appropriate disciplinary
- 23 sanctions against licensees or other individuals who violate this
- 24 act or rules promulgated under this act.
- 25 (b) The commission shall consist of the following:
- 26 (i) The director, serving as a nonvoting ex officio member of
- 27 the commission.

- 1 (ii) Seven voting members appointed by the governor with the
- 2 advice and consent of the senate. The governor shall appoint 1
- 3 voting member who is a former contestant, physician, referee, or
- 4 judge, who has experience in the sport of amateur mixed martial
- 5 arts.
- 6 (c) A member appointed by the governor under subdivision (b)
- 7 serves at the pleasure of the governor. Except as provided in
- 8 subdivision (d) or (e), the term of office of a member appointed to
- 9 the commission is 4 years and an individual shall not be appointed
- 10 to or serve for more than 2 consecutive terms.
- 11 (d) The governor shall appoint the initial members of the
- 12 commission to serve for the following terms of office:
- (i) Three of the members, 4 years.
- 14 (ii) Two of the members, 3 years.
- 15 (iii) Two of the members, 2 years.
- 16 (e) If an individual is appointed to fill a vacancy on the
- 17 commission that is the result of a member's resignation, death,
- 18 disability, or removal by the governor, he or she shall serve for
- 19 the balance of the term of the member replaced and may be
- 20 reappointed for not more than 2 additional 4-year terms.
- 21 (f) A majority of the members appointed and serving constitute
- 22 a quorum of the commission.
- 23 (g) A member of the commission shall not vote by proxy.
- 24 (h) The commission shall annually elect 1 of its members as
- 25 the chair of the commission.
- (i) The commission shall meet as often as necessary to fulfill
- 27 its duties under this act.

- 1 (j) The legislature shall annually establish the per diem
- 2 compensation of members of the commission. Members shall receive
- 3 reimbursement for their actual travel expenses to commission
- 4 meetings from the department. The amount of the reimbursement for
- 5 travel expenses under this subdivision shall not exceed the amounts
- 6 allowed under the standardized travel regulations of the department
- 7 of technology, management, and budget.
- 8 (2) While serving as a member of the commission, an individual
- 9 shall not promote or sponsor any contest or event of amateur mixed
- 10 martial arts or have any financial interest in an entity that
- 11 promotes or sponsors any amateur mixed martial arts contests or
- 12 events.
- 13 (3) An individual who has a material financial interest in a
- 14 club, organization, or other legal entity is not eligible for
- 15 appointment to the commission if the primary purpose of that entity
- 16 is conducting amateur or professional mixed martial arts contests
- 17 or events.
- 18 Sec. 9. (1) Except as provided in section 7(1) concerning the
- 19 authority of the commission, the department is responsible for
- 20 administering and enforcing this act. All of the following apply to
- 21 the department's enforcement of this act:
- 22 (a) In enforcing this act, the department may initiate an
- 23 administrative or court action against an applicant or licensee or
- 24 take any other action against a licensee or his or her license that
- 25 is authorized under this act for a violation of this act.
- 26 (b) The department shall not take any action against an
- 27 applicant, licensee, or license under subdivision (a) more than 1

- 1 year after the occurrence of the violation of this act that is the
- 2 subject of the department's action.
- 3 (2) The amateur mixed martial arts fund is created in the
- 4 state treasury. All of the following apply to the fund:
- 5 (a) The department shall deposit into the fund all money
- 6 received from application fees, license fees, and administrative
- 7 fines imposed under this act.
- 8 (b) The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the
- 9 fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and
- 10 earnings from fund investments.
- 11 (c) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall
- 12 remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.
- 13 (d) The department is the administrator of the fund for
- 14 auditing purposes.
- 15 (e) The department shall expend money from the fund, upon
- 16 appropriation, to administer and enforce this act and for its
- 17 expenditures under this act.
- 18 (3) The director may promulgate rules to administer and
- 19 enforce this act under the administrative procedures act of 1969,
- 20 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.
- 21 Sec. 11. (1) An individual shall not hold or conduct an
- 22 amateur mixed martial arts contest or event in this state or engage
- 23 in any other activity regulated under this act unless the
- 24 individual holds a promoter's license under this act or the
- 25 individual is exempt from licensure under this act.
- 26 (2) An individual seeking a license under this act shall
- 27 submit a license application to the department, in writing and

- 1 under oath, accompanied by a nonrefundable application processing
- 2 fee and an annual license fee. The application shall be made on a
- 3 form provided by the department and shall include the legal name,
- 4 street address, and telephone number of the applicant and any other
- 5 information reasonably required by the department.
- 6 (3) An annual license under this act shall expire on September
- 7 30 of the calendar year following the year the license was issued.
- 8 (4) Beginning on the effective date of this act, the
- 9 nonrefundable application fee required under this section is
- 10 \$100.00 and the annual license fee required under this section is
- 11 \$300.00. Beginning 1 year after the effective date of this act, the
- 12 director may biannually adjust the amount of the fees described in
- 13 this section based on the increase or decrease for the immediately
- 14 preceding 6-month period in the Detroit consumer price index as
- 15 reported by the United States department of labor.
- 16 Sec. 13. By filing an application for a license under this
- 17 act, an applicant does both of the following:
- 18 (a) Certifies his or her general suitability, character,
- 19 integrity, and ability to participate in, engage in, or be
- 20 associated with amateur mixed martial arts contests or events. The
- 21 burden of proof is on the applicant to establish that the applicant
- 22 possesses suitability, character, and integrity and is qualified to
- 23 promote and participate in mixed martial arts amateur contests or
- 24 events.
- 25 (b) Accepts the risk of adverse public notice, embarrassment,
- 26 criticism, financial loss, or other action with respect to his or
- 27 her application and expressly waives any claim for damages as a

- 1 result of any adverse public notice, embarrassment, criticism,
- 2 financial loss, or other action.
- 3 Sec. 15. (1) An applicant is ineligible to receive a
- 4 promoter's license under this act if he or she meets any of the
- 5 following:
- 6 (a) He or she was convicted of a felony that involved
- 7 violence, theft, fraud, or an element of financial dishonesty under
- 8 the laws of this state or any other jurisdiction in the United
- 9 States in the 5-year period preceding the application.
- 10 (b) He or she has an unsatisfied tax lien in the amount of at
- 11 least \$5,000.00 under any federal, state, or local law at the time
- 12 of the application.
- 13 (c) He or she submitted an application for a license under
- 14 this act that contained false information.
- 15 (2) If the department does not issue an initial or renewal
- 16 license to an individual under this act, he or she may petition the
- 17 department and the commission for a review. The petition must be in
- 18 writing and set forth the reasons the petitioner believes that the
- 19 department should issue a license to him or her. The department may
- 20 issue a license to the petitioner if, based on a review of the
- 21 qualifications of the individual who submitted the petition, the
- 22 department and the commission determine that the individual could
- 23 perform as a promoter with competence.
- 24 Sec. 17. (1) An individual who fails to renew a license on or
- 25 before its expiration date shall not hold or conduct an amateur
- 26 mixed martial arts contest or event or advertise, operate, or use
- 27 the title "promoter" or "amateur promoter" after the expiration

- 1 date printed on the license.
- 2 (2) An individual who fails to renew a license on or before
- 3 its expiration date is permitted to renew the license within 60
- 4 days after the expiration date by meeting all requirements for
- 5 licensure under this act, paying the required license fee, and
- 6 paying a late renewal fee in the amount of \$30.00. After that 60-
- 7 day period, the individual may only obtain a license under this act
- 8 by complying with the requirements of section 11.
- 9 (3) Except as provided in subsection (4) or otherwise provided
- 10 in this act, an individual may seek reinstatement of a license
- 11 under this act by filing an application on a form provided by the
- 12 department, paying the application processing fee and annual
- 13 license fee, and filing a petition with the department that states
- 14 the reasons reinstatement is appropriate and includes evidence that
- 15 the individual can and is likely to serve the public in the
- 16 regulated activity with competence and in conformance with all
- 17 other requirements prescribed by law, rule, or an order of the
- 18 department.
- 19 (4) If a license is revoked or suspended by the department
- 20 under this act, the department may reinstate the revoked license or
- 21 lift a suspension if it receives an application for reinstatement
- 22 and is paid any administrative fine assessed by the commission.
- 23 Sec. 19. (1) In addition to the fees described in section 11,
- 24 a licensee shall pay a regulatory and enforcement fee of \$200.00
- 25 for each amateur mixed martial arts event presented by the
- 26 promoter. The department shall deposit regulatory and enforcement
- 27 fees it receives under this section in the fund. By December 1 of

- 1 each year, the department shall report to the legislature the
- 2 amount of revenue generated by the regulatory and enforcement fee
- 3 in the preceding state fiscal year.
- 4 (2) A licensee who presents an amateur mixed martial arts
- 5 event in this state must comply with all of the following:
- 6 (a) At least 5 business days before the event, pay the
- 7 regulatory and enforcement fee described in subsection (1) and
- 8 provide notice to the department that describes the event. The
- 9 department shall prescribe the form and contents of the notice
- 10 described in this subdivision.
- 11 (b) Pay all obligations related to the normal course of
- 12 promoting an amateur mixed martial arts event, including, but not
- 13 limited to, venue rent and judge, medical professional, referee,
- 14 and timekeeper fees.
- 15 (c) Maintain records of the amateur mixed martial arts event
- 16 for at least 1 year after the date of the scheduled event and make
- 17 those records available to the department or law enforcement
- 18 officials on request.
- 19 (3) A licensee presenting an amateur mixed martial arts event
- 20 in this state shall ensure that all of the following are met in the
- 21 conduct of the event:
- 22 (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), each individual
- 23 contest consists of not more than 3 rounds, of not more than 3
- 24 minutes' duration, with at least a 1-minute rest period between
- 25 each round.
- 26 (b) Each individual national or international championship
- 27 contest consists of not more than 5 rounds, of not more than 5

- 1 minutes' duration, with at least a 1-minute rest period between
- 2 each round.
- 3 (c) Each contestant wears gloves, supplied by the promoter,
- 4 that weigh at least 4 ounces and not more than 8 ounces.
- 5 (d) The referee examines the gloves worn by each contestant
- 6 before and during a contest. If the referee finds that a glove is
- 7 misplaced, lumpy, broken, roughed, or otherwise unfit, the
- 8 contestant must change the glove before the start of the contest.
- 9 (e) Before a contestant participates in a contest, he or she
- 10 is weighed and placed in the appropriate weight class. As used in
- 11 this subdivision and subdivision (f), "weight class" means 1 of the
- 12 following:
- (i) Flyweight, if he or she weighs 125.9 pounds or less.
- 14 (ii) Bantamweight, if he or she weighs 126 pounds or more and
- 15 not more than 135 pounds.
- 16 (iii) Featherweight, if he or she weighs 135.1 pounds or more
- 17 and not more than 145 pounds.
- 18 (iv) Lightweight, if he or she weighs 145.1 pounds or more and
- 19 not more than 155 pounds.
- 20 (v) Welterweight, if he or she weighs 155.1 pounds or more and
- 21 not more than 170 pounds.
- (vi) Middleweight, if he or she weighs 170.1 pounds or more and
- 23 not more than 185 pounds.
- 24 (vii) Light heavyweight, if he or she weighs 185.1 pounds or
- 25 more and not more than 205 pounds.
- 26 (viii) Heavyweight, if he or she weighs 205.1 pounds or more and
- 27 not more than 265 pounds.

- 1 (ix) Super heavyweight, if he or she weighs more than 265
- 2 pounds.
- 3 (f) a contestant only participates in a contest with another
- 4 contestant who meets 1 of the following:
- 5 (i) The second contestant is in the same weight class.
- 6 (ii) The second contestant is in the next higher weight class,
- 7 if the first contestant agrees to participate with that heavier
- 8 contestant.
- 9 (g) Professional mixed martial artists who are subject to the
- 10 Michigan unarmed combat regulatory act, 2004 PA 403, MCL 338.3601
- 11 to 338.3663, do not participate as contestants in a contest.
- 12 (h) A contestant does not participate in a contest unless the
- 13 contestant has submitted medical certification of negative results
- 14 for hepatitis B and C and HIV tests conducted within the 180-day
- 15 period preceding the scheduled contest or event.
- 16 (i) A female contestant does not participate in a contest
- 17 unless the contestant has submitted the results of a pregnancy test
- 18 performed on the contestant within the 7-day period preceding the
- 19 event and the results of that pregnancy test are negative.
- (j) An individual is not allowed to participate as a
- 21 contestant without proper medical clearance.
- 22 (k) The event does not take place or continue without a
- 23 medical professional at the event.
- 24 (1) The event does not take place or continue without a trained
- 25 and competent referee.
- 26 (m) An individual is not allowed to participate in a contest
- 27 if there is any reason to suspect that he or she is impaired. As

- 1 used in this subsection:
- 2 (i) "Impaired" means the inability or immediately impending

- 3 inability of an individual to safely participate in an amateur
- 4 mixed martial arts contest or event due to his or her substance
- 5 abuse, chemical dependency, or use of drugs or alcohol that does
- 6 not constitute substance abuse or chemical dependency.
- 7 (ii) "Chemical dependency" means that term as defined in
- 8 section 16106a of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL
- **9** 333.16106a.
- 10 (iii) "Substance abuse" means that term as defined in section
- 11 16106a of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.16106a.
- 12 (n) A professional is not allowed to participate as a
- 13 contestant in the event.
- 14 (o) If an individual lost a mixed martial arts contest or
- 15 exhibition by a technical knockout in the 30-day period preceding
- 16 the event, he or she is not allowed to participate as a contestant
- 17 unless he or she submits the results of a physical examination to
- 18 the promoter that indicate that he or she is fit to compete.
- 19 (p) The medical professional at the event determines the
- 20 status of a contestant who is knocked out in an amateur mixed
- 21 martial arts contest or whose fight is stopped by the referee
- 22 because he or she received hard blows to the head that made him or
- 23 her defenseless or incapable of continuing immediately after the
- 24 knockout or stoppage. The medical professional may recommend post-
- 25 fight neurological examinations, which may include performing
- 26 computerized axial tomography (CAT) scans or magnetic resonance
- 27 imaging (MRI) on the contestant immediately after the contestant

- 1 leaves the event venue.
- 2 (q) A contestant described in subdivision (p) does not compete
- 3 in another contest without proper medical clearance.
- 4 (r) If a medical professional recommended further neurological
- 5 examinations of a contestant under subdivision (p), the contestant
- 6 does not compete in another contest until the promoter receives
- 7 copies of the examination reports and the reports demonstrate that
- 8 the contestant is fit to compete.
- 9 (s) A contestant who sustains a severe injury or knockout in a
- 10 contest is examined by a medical professional and is not permitted
- 11 to compete in another contest until a medical professional
- 12 certifies that the contestant is fully recovered.
- 13 (t) An individual who meets all of the following does not
- 14 participate as a contestant:
- (i) He or she participated in a contest or exhibition in the
- 16 60-day period preceding the event.
- 17 (ii) In the contest or exhibition described in subparagraph (i),
- 18 he or she was knocked out or the contest or exhibition was stopped
- 19 because he or she received excessive hard blows to the head.
- 20 (u) An individual who meets all of the following does not
- 21 participate as a contestant:
- 22 (i) He or she participated in multiple contests or exhibitions
- 23 before the event.
- 24 (ii) In any 90-day period, he or she was knocked out twice or 2
- 25 of his or her contests or exhibitions were stopped because he or
- 26 she received excessive hard blows to the head.
- 27 (iii) The second knockout or stoppage described in subparagraph

- 1 (ii) occurred in the 120-day period preceding the event.
- 2 (v) An individual who meets all of the following does not
- 3 participate as a contestant:
- 4 (i) He or she participated in multiple contests or exhibitions
- 5 before the event.
- 6 (ii) In any 12-month period, he or she was knocked out in 3
- 7 consecutive contests or exhibitions or 3 consecutive contests or
- 8 exhibitions were stopped because he or she received excessive hard
- 9 blows to the head.
- 10 (iii) The third knockout or stoppage described in subparagraph
- 11 (ii) occurred in the 1-year period preceding the event.
- 12 (w) If an individual was not allowed to participate as a
- 13 contestant in an earlier event because he or she met the
- 14 requirements of subdivision (t), (u), or (v) at the time of that
- 15 earlier event, he or she does not participate as a contestant
- 16 unless he or she provides the promoter with proper medical
- 17 clearance.
- 18 (x) Each contestant is insured for at least \$10,000.00 for any
- 19 medical and hospital expenses, including deductibles paid by the
- 20 contestant, to cover injuries sustained in a contest and for at
- 21 least \$10,000.00 to be paid in accordance with the statutes of
- 22 descent and distribution of individual property if the contestant
- 23 dies as a result of injuries received in a contest.
- 24 Sec. 21. (1) An individual who does any of the following is
- 25 subject to the remedies and penalties described in this section:
- (a) Violates this act or a rule promulgated or order issued
- 27 under this act.

- 1 (b) Practices fraud or deceit in obtaining a license.
- 2 (c) Practices fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in performing his
- 3 or her duties as a promoter.
- 4 (d) Practices false advertising.
- (e) Fails to comply with a subpoena issued under this act.
- 6 (f) Fails to provide requested documents or records to the
- 7 department.
- 8 (g) Violates or fails to comply with a stipulation or
- 9 settlement agreement with or a final order issued by the department
- 10 or commission.
- 11 (h) Aids or abets another individual in promoting an amateur
- 12 mixed martial arts contest without a license.
- (i) Fails to pay any obligation related to the normal course
- 14 of promoting an amateur mixed martial arts event, including, but
- 15 not limited to, venue rent or judge, medical professional, referee,
- or timekeeper fees.
- 17 (j) Enters into a contract for an amateur mixed martial arts
- 18 contest or event in bad faith.
- 19 (k) Gambles on the outcome of an amateur mixed martial arts
- 20 contest or event of which he or she is a promoter.
- (l) Fails to file current address information with the
- 22 department.
- 23 (m) Assaults another licensee, a commission member, or an
- 24 employee of the department.
- 25 (n) Tampers with or coerces another promoter's contestants.
- 26 (2) If a licensee violates this act or a rule or order
- 27 promulgated or issued under this act, the department may take 1 or

- 1 more of the following actions:
- 2 (a) Place a limitation on his or her license.
- 3 (b) Suspend his or her license.
- 4 (c) Deny him or her a license or renewal of a license.
- 5 (d) Revoke his or her license.
- **6** (e) Assess an administrative fine under section 35.
- 7 (f) Censure the licensee.
- 8 (g) Require that he or she pay restitution, based on proofs
- 9 submitted to and findings made by the hearings examiner after a
- 10 contested case. If restitution is required and the individual is a
- 11 licensee, the department may suspend his or her license until the
- 12 restitution is paid.
- 13 (3) An individual who violates this act is guilty of a
- 14 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or
- a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.
- 16 (4) An individual who violates this act a second or any
- 17 subsequent time is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by
- 18 imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than
- 19 \$1,000.00, or both.
- 20 (5) An individual who knowingly allows a professional to
- 21 participate as a contestant in an amateur mixed martial arts
- 22 contest with an amateur is guilty of a felony punishable by
- 23 imprisonment for not more than 3 years or a fine of \$10,000.00 per
- 24 incident, or both.
- 25 (6) The department may bring an injunctive action in a court
- 26 of competent jurisdiction to restrain or prevent an individual from
- 27 violating this act. If successful in obtaining injunctive relief,

- 1 the department is entitled to its costs and reasonable attorney
- 2 fees.
- 3 (7) The department may conduct an investigation to enforce
- 4 this act. An individual who violates this act is subject to the
- 5 penalties and remedies described in this section.
- **6** (8) The penalties and remedies under this section are
- 7 independent and cumulative. The imposition of a remedy or penalty
- 8 against an individual under this section does not bar the pursuit
- 9 of any lawful remedy by that individual or the pursuit of a lawful
- 10 remedy by any other person against that individual.
- 11 Sec. 23. (1) Any person may file a written complaint with the
- 12 department alleging that an individual has violated this act or a
- 13 rule promulgated or an order issued under this act.
- 14 (2) If the department receives a complaint described in
- 15 subsection (1), the department immediately shall begin and pursue
- 16 an investigation of the allegations of the complaint. The
- 17 department shall acknowledge the complaint in writing within 15
- 18 days after it receives the complaint.
- 19 (3) For purposes of its investigation under this section, the
- 20 department may administer oaths; take testimony under oath; require
- 21 the appearance and testimony of witnesses, including the production
- of books, records, or other documents; or request that the attorney
- 23 general petition a court of competent jurisdiction to issue a
- 24 subpoena requiring a person to appear before the department and be
- 25 examined with reference to any matter within the scope of the
- 26 investigation and to produce books, papers, or documents pertaining
- 27 to the investigation.

- 1 (4) If the department determines after conducting an
- 2 investigation under this section that there is not sufficient
- 3 evidence that there was a violation of this act or a rule
- 4 promulgated or an order issued under this act by the respondent,
- 5 the department shall close the complaint. The department shall
- 6 provide its reasons for closing the complaint to the complainant,
- 7 who then may provide additional information to reopen the
- 8 complaint, and to the respondent.
- 9 (5) If the department determines after conducting an
- 10 investigation under this section that there is sufficient evidence
- 11 that there was a violation of this act or a rule promulgated or an
- 12 order issued under this act by the respondent, the department or
- 13 the department of attorney general shall take appropriate action
- 14 against the respondent, which may include any of the following:
- (a) Issuing a formal complaint.
- 16 (b) Obtaining a cease and desist order.
- 17 (c) Issuing an order of summary suspension under section 25.
- 18 (d) Seeking injunctive relief under section 21(6).
- 19 (6) At any time during its investigation or after it issues a
- 20 formal complaint, the department may meet with the complainant and
- 21 the respondent for an informal conference. At the meeting, the
- 22 department shall attempt to resolve issues raised in the complaint
- 23 and may attempt to aid the parties in reaching a formal settlement
- 24 or stipulation.
- Sec. 25. (1) After it conducts an investigation under section
- 26 23, the department may issue an order summarily suspending a
- 27 license based on an affidavit by a person familiar with the facts

- 1 set forth in the affidavit or, if appropriate, based on an
- 2 affidavit on information and belief that an imminent threat to the
- 3 integrity of the sport of amateur mixed martial arts, the public
- 4 interest, or the welfare and safety of a contestant exists.
- 5 (2) If a promoter's license is summarily suspended under this
- 6 section, the promoter may petition the department to dissolve the
- 7 suspension order. After receiving a petition to dissolve a
- 8 suspension order, the department shall immediately schedule a
- 9 hearing to decide whether to grant or deny the requested relief.
- 10 (3) After the hearing concerning a petition to dissolve a
- 11 suspension order under subsection (2), the administrative law
- 12 hearings examiner shall dissolve the summary suspension order
- 13 unless sufficient evidence is presented that an imminent threat to
- 14 the integrity of the sport, the public interest, or the welfare and
- 15 safety of a contestant exists that requires emergency action and
- 16 continuation of the department's summary suspension order.
- 17 (4) The record created at a hearing to dissolve a summary
- 18 suspension order is considered part of the record of the complaint
- 19 at any subsequent hearing in a contested case.
- 20 Sec. 27. (1) If the department conducts an investigation under
- 21 section 23, the department after the investigation may order a
- 22 person to cease and desist violating this act or a rule promulgated
- 23 or order issued under this act.
- 24 (2) A person ordered to cease and desist under subsection (1)
- 25 may request a hearing on that order by filing a written request for
- 26 a hearing with the department within 30 days after the effective
- 27 date of the order.

- 1 (3) If a person violates a cease and desist order issued under
- 2 this act, the department of attorney general may apply to a court
- 3 of competent jurisdiction to restrain and enjoin, temporarily or
- 4 permanently, or both, the person from further violating the cease
- 5 and desist order.
- 6 Sec. 29. (1) A summary suspension order under section 25, a
- 7 cease and desist order under section 27, or injunctive relief
- 8 issued or granted in an action under section 21(6) concerning a
- 9 license is in addition to and not in place of an informal
- 10 conference; criminal prosecution; proceeding to impose a remedy
- 11 described in section 21(2); or any other action authorized under
- 12 this act.
- 13 (2) If the department conducts an investigation and prepares
- 14 or receives a formal complaint under section 23, the department
- 15 shall serve the formal complaint on the respondent and the
- 16 complainant. At the same time, the department shall serve the
- 17 respondent with a notice describing the compliance conference and
- 18 hearing process and offering the respondent a choice of 1 of the
- 19 following options:
- 20 (a) An opportunity to meet with the department to negotiate a
- 21 settlement of the matter.
- 22 (b) If the respondent is a licensee under this act, an
- 23 opportunity to demonstrate compliance before the department holds a
- 24 contested case hearing.
- 25 (c) An opportunity to proceed to a contested case hearing.
- 26 (3) A respondent who is served with a formal complaint under
- 27 this section may select, within 15 days after receiving the notice,

- 1 1 of the options described in subsection (2). If the respondent
- 2 does not notify the department of the selection of 1 of those
- 3 options within the time period described in this subsection, the
- 4 department shall proceed with a contested case hearing as described
- 5 in subsection (2)(c).
- 6 (4) At the discretion of the department, a member of the
- 7 commission may attend an informal conference described in
- 8 subsection (2)(a). The conference may result in a settlement,
- 9 consent order, waiver, default, or other method of settlement
- 10 agreed on by the parties and the department. A settlement may
- 11 include any remedy under section 21(2) or any other remedy
- 12 authorized under this act. The commission may reject a settlement
- 13 and require a contested case hearing.
- 14 (5) An employee of the department may represent the department
- in any contested case hearing.
- 16 (6) This section does not prevent a person against whom a
- 17 complaint is filed from showing compliance with this act or a rule
- 18 promulgated or order issued under this act.
- 19 (7) The department or the department of the attorney general
- 20 may petition a court of competent jurisdiction to issue a subpoena
- 21 to require the person subpoenaed to appear or testify or produce
- 22 relevant documentary material for examination at a proceeding.
- 23 Sec. 31. (1) At the conclusion of a contested case hearing
- 24 conducted under section 29, the administrative law hearings
- 25 examiner shall submit a hearing report that includes findings of
- 26 fact and conclusions of law to the department, the department of
- 27 attorney general, and the commission. The examiner may recommend in

- 1 the hearing report the assessment of a penalty or remedy under this
- 2 act.
- 3 (2) An administrative law hearings examiner shall submit a
- 4 copy of a hearing report prepared under subsection (1) to the
- 5 complainant and to the respondent.
- 6 (3) Within 60 days after it receives an administrative law
- 7 hearings examiner's hearing report, the commission shall meet and
- 8 determine what penalty or remedy is appropriate. The commission
- 9 shall make its determination based on the administrative law
- 10 hearings examiner's report. The examiner shall make a transcript of
- 11 a hearing or a portion of the transcript available to the
- 12 commission on request. If a transcript or a portion of the
- 13 transcript is requested, the commission shall make its
- 14 determination of the penalty or remedy to assess under this act at
- 15 a meeting held within 60 days after it receives the transcript or
- 16 portion of the transcript.
- 17 (4) If the commission does not determine which penalty or
- 18 remedy to assess within the time period described in subsection
- 19 (3), the director may determine the appropriate remedy or penalty
- 20 and issue a final order.
- 21 (5) A member of the commission who has participated in an
- 22 investigation or administrative hearing on a complaint filed with
- 23 the department or who has attended an informal conference shall not
- 24 participate in making a final determination in a proceeding on that
- 25 complaint.
- 26 Sec. 33. (1) If a licensee violates this act or a rule or
- 27 order promulgated or issued under this act, the department may

- 1 impose an administrative fine on the licensee, in an amount of not
- 2 more than \$10,000.00 per violation. The commission may impose the
- 3 administrative fine in addition to, or in lieu of, any other
- 4 penalty or remedy under this act, including, but not limited to,
- 5 the penalties and remedies described in section 21, based on proofs
- 6 submitted to and findings made by the hearings examiner after a
- 7 contested case.
- 8 (2) If the department imposes an administrative fine under
- 9 this section, the department may also recover the costs of the
- 10 proceeding, including investigative costs, court costs, and
- 11 reasonable attorney fees. The department or the attorney general
- 12 may bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover
- 13 any administrative fines, investigative and other allowable costs,
- 14 court costs, and reasonable attorney fees. The filing of an action
- 15 to recover administrative fines and costs does not bar the
- 16 imposition of other penalty or remedy under this act.
- 17 Enacting section 1. This act takes effect 90 days after the
- 18 date this act is enacted into law.