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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7641

BILL NUMBER: SB 557

NOTE PREPARED: Mar 26, 2007

BILL AMENDED Mar 26, 2007

SUBJECT: Combative Fighting.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Kruse

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Kuzman

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) *Definition of Combative Fighting-* The bill defines "combative fighting".

Unauthorized Participation in Combative Fighting- The bill provides that a person who knowingly or intentionally participates in combative fighting commits unauthorized combative fighting, a Class C misdemeanor.

Unauthorized Promotion/Organization of Combative Fighting- The bill provides that a person who knowingly or intentionally promotes or organizes combative fighting commits unlawful promotion or organization of combative fighting, a Class A misdemeanor. The bill makes unlawful promotion or organization of combative fighting a Class D felony if, within the five years preceding the commission of the offense, the person had a prior unrelated conviction for unlawful promotion or organization of combative fighting.

State Boxing Commission- The bill requires the State Boxing Commission (SBC) to adopt rules to define ultimate fighting, Ultimate Fighting Championships, mixed martial arts, martial arts, including jujutsu, karate, kickboxing, kung fu, and tae kwon do, and professional wrestling.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *State Boxing Commission-* The SBC conducts several meetings and conference calls during a given year. The SBC would be able to adopt the rules required by the bill within existing resources and scheduled meetings.

Background- As of October 2006, the PLA had 92 full-time employees. The PLA reverted \$63,329 back to the state General Fund at the close of FY 2006.

(Revised) *Unauthorized Promotion/Organization of Combative Fighting-* Under the bill, a prior conviction for illegal promotion or organization of a combative fight would lead to a Class D felony charge for an unrelated second offense. A Class D felony is punishable by a prison term ranging from six months to three years or reduction to Class A misdemeanor depending upon mitigating and aggravating circumstances. Assuming offenders can be housed in existing facilities with no additional staff, the average cost for medical care, food, and clothing is approximately \$1,825 annually, or \$5 daily, per prisoner. However, any additional expenditures are likely to be small. The average length of stay in Department of Correction (DOC) facilities for all Class D felony offenders is approximately ten months.

Explanation of State Revenues: (Revised) *Unauthorized Participation in Combative Fighting-* If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund (from fines) and the state General Fund (from court fees) would increase. The maximum fine for a Class C misdemeanor is \$500. However, any additional revenue would likely be small.

(Revised) *Unauthorized Promotion/Organization of Combative Fighting-* The maximum fine for a Class A misdemeanor is \$5,000. The maximum fine for a Class D felony is \$10,000. However, any additional revenues would likely be small.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: (Revised) *Unauthorized Participation in Combative Fighting-* A Class C misdemeanor is punishable by up to 60 days in jail.

Unauthorized Promotion/Organization of Combative Fighting- A Class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to one year in jail.

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Unauthorized Combative Fighting-* If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments would receive revenue from court fees. However, any change in revenue would likely be small.

State Agencies Affected: Professional Licensing Agency.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources:

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