

By: Representative Ellington

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 861

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 75-75-101 AND 75-75-105, MISSISSIPPI  
2 CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE AND CLARIFY LAWS RELATING TO THE CONDUCT  
3 OF TOUGH-MAN CONTESTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

5 SECTION 1. Section 75-75-101, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 75-75-101. (1) Boxing, sparring and wrestling matches and  
8 exhibitions for percentage of gate receipts where an admission fee  
9 is charged are hereby allowed. All boxing, sparring and wrestling  
10 matches and exhibitions authorized herein shall be held under the  
11 supervision of and subject to the rules and regulations of the  
12 Mississippi Athletic Commission, and in strict compliance with the  
13 provisions of this article. No boxing or sparring match or  
14 exhibition shall exceed fifteen (15) rounds of three (3) minutes  
15 each, and the charge for each seat or ticket shall be left to the  
16 discretion of the commission.

17 (2) For the purposes of this chapter, "tough-man contest"  
18 and kickboxing competition shall be subject to the jurisdiction of  
19 the Mississippi Athletic Commission.

20 (3) (a) Promoters of tough-man contests are authorized to  
21 use licensed judges and referees of their choice. The Mississippi  
22 Athletic Commission shall not require such promoters to use judges  
23 and referees selected by the commission.

24 (b) Tough-man contest fighters shall use gloves which  
25 are weighted at fourteen (14) ounce or larger.

26 (c) A tough-man contest shall not exceed three (3)  
27 rounds and a round shall be for two (2) minutes. No fighter shall



28 fight more than two (2) consecutive days with a maximum of twelve  
29 (12) rounds.

30 (d) Tough-man contest matches that are part of a  
31 tournament or other competition lasting at least two (2) days  
32 shall require prefight physicals of all contestants not more than  
33 four (4) hours before the start of such tournament or other  
34 competition.

35 SECTION 2. Section 75-75-105, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
36 amended as follows:

37 75-75-105. The commission shall have a seal and shall have  
38 and is hereby vested with the sole direction, management, control  
39 and jurisdiction over all boxing, sparring and wrestling matches  
40 or exhibitions to be conducted, held or given within the State of  
41 Mississippi. The commission has full power and authority and it  
42 shall be its duty: (a) to make and publish rules and regulations  
43 governing the conduct of boxing, sparring and wrestling matches  
44 and exhibitions, the time and place thereof, and the prices  
45 charged for admission thereto; (b) to accept application for and,  
46 in its discretion, order a license or permit issued to promoters  
47 and participants of these events, and to revoke the license or  
48 permit; (c) to collect through the recorder of permits and  
49 licenses a fee of six percent (6%) of the gross receipts of every  
50 boxing, sparring or wrestling match or exhibition, and a  
51 reasonable fee not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for  
52 each annual license or permit issued to a boxer, wrestler,  
53 referee, judge, matchmaker, promoter, manager, trainer, second,  
54 director, or timekeeper; and (d) to revoke any license or permit  
55 when, in its judgment, the public welfare requires it. The  
56 commission is prohibited from issuing regulations which may be  
57 construed as granting a franchised or exclusive territory, and  
58 from the issuing of any type of monopolistic license or permit.  
59 The commission shall not make any rules or regulations governing



60 the conduct of tough-man contests that conflict with the  
61 provisions of Section 75-75-101, Mississippi Code of 1972.

62 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
63 and after July 1, 2001.

