

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kenny Wilk at 3:30 p.m. on February 12, 2004, in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Kathie Sparks, Legislative Research Department
Susan Kannarr, Legislative Research Department
Rena Jefferies, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Helen Pedigo, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Fulva Seufert, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Tom Burroughs
Tim Lueckenhoff, President Association of Boxing
Commission and Missouri Boxing Commissioner
Richard Herring, Vice President, Governmental Affairs,
World Wrestling Entertainment
Damon Reed, Professional Boxer/Promoter
George Clark, Boxing Promoter, Fire Fighter
Franchesca Alcanter, Professional Boxer
Carlos Pacheco, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Internal
Association of Fire Fighters Human Relations Board
Sumya Anani, 4 time World Champion
Greg Gorrell, Wichita
Billy Rork, Attorney at Law

Others attending:

See Attached List.

Chairman Wilk opened the meeting of the House Economic Development Committee February 12, 2004, at 3:30 p.m. The Chair announced that it was the intent to work **HB 2647** in committee next Tuesday, February 17, 2004. He requested committee members who have amendments to please have a balloon, if possible. The Chair also said he knew of at least two or three balloons and some technical changes and cleanup.

The Chair asked Ms. Sparks if she had brought her fighting gloves for the briefing on **HB 2713**.

HB 2713 - Establishing a boxing commissioner, athletic commission, athletic fee fund, licensing, procedures for complaints

Ms. Sparks briefed the committee and the Chair then opened the Public Hearing on **HB 2713**. The Chair welcomed Representative Burroughs who spoke as a proponent and said the bill would eliminate a state law giving local governments licensing control over prize fighting, boxing sparring, and mixed martial arts. Instead, the industry participants would be licensed by a boxing commission and/or commissioner. This would establish uniform guidelines for promoting and conducting professional bouts in Kansas. He gave a brief history of how the Kansas Athletic Commission was abolished in June, 1980 because Legislative Post Audit thought there were too few boxing events in Kansas. Legislative Post Audit thought there were not enough tax receipts for boxing to support the operation of a regulatory agency. However, the audit found that there was a definite need for some type of regulation. Rep. Burroughs said that Kansas has a rich boxing history and should join the majority of other states who provide an opportunity for their athletes to fight in their home state. (Attachment 1)

Chairman Wilk thanked Rep. Burroughs and asked him to introduce the conferees. Rep. Burroughs gave an overview of the presenters and then introduced Mr. Tim Lueckenhoff, President, Association of Boxing Commission and Missouri Boxing Commissioner. Mr. Lueckenhoff provided no written testimony, but stated that the federal government is almost prohibiting boxing in Kansas because regulators have no power. He said

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE at 3:30 p.m. on February 12, 2004, in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

an association can come in and regulate, but this is much different than when a commissioner regulates. He stated that Kansas needs to develop a regulatory agency to regulate mixed martial arts. He believes that this legislation would provide an opportunity for economic growth due to increased gate receipts, etc.

Mr. Lueckenhoff stood for questions and Chairman Wilk thanked him. Rep Burroughs next introduced Mr. Richard Herring, Vice President, Governmental Affairs, World Wrestling Entertainment. Rep. Burroughs said that World Wrestling Entertainment is the largest promoter of wrestling in the world. Mr. Herring provided a handout giving an overview of World Wrestling Entertainment and thanked Rep. Burroughs for addressing this issue. He said there is a definite difference between independent entertainment which is not considered to be a sport, but rather intended to be strictly entertainment. He said sell-out crowds have become the catalyst to support an athletic commission or a commissioner. He said television is their catalyst, and when television promoters are looking for a location, they go where it is advantageous to promote. Kansas naturally loses because of logistics, but Kansas needs to minimize its loss. He said most states have an athletic tax and have eliminated their sales tax. He said the bill as it is now written does not address this issue, but adds on 5% up to 20% as an athletic tax. He stated that they do not support this concept and that the bill must be drafted to pay only one tax. Promoters would never pay both these taxes. His final point addressed Pay for View TV tax. He said most states do not charge this. He said they support the creation of a boxing commission and would have no trouble with paying a licensing fee, but do not like the tax structure as it is currently written in the bill. (Attachment 2)

Chairman Wilk thanked Mr. Herring, and then Rep. Burroughs introduced Mr. Damon Reed, Professional Boxer/Promoter. Mr. Reed provided no written testimony and said that he did not support a five member commission. He said other states do not want to come to Kansas and be liable for the shows in Kansas. He mentioned he was speaking about the old bill and that the new bill has had most of his concerns addressed.

Chairman Wilk thanked Mr. Reed, and Rep. Burroughs introduced Mr. George Clark, Boxing Promoter and Fire Fighter, who provided no written testimony, but said he was here today to support and protect participants and people involved with this sport. He stated that at the present time there is currently no safety precautions and he wants the people he cares for protected. Following Mr. Clark's testimony, Rep. Burroughs said that George Clark is modest because he is one individual who encourages all and that he really knows the business.

Chairman Wilk thanked Mr. Clark, and Rep. Burroughs introduced Sumya Anani, 4 time World Champion. She stood for recognition, but did not testify. Rep. Burroughs then introduced Ms. Franchesca Alcanter, Professional Boxer. Ms. Alcanter said that Kansas has been deprived of having recognition. She stressed the importance of working with kids who are our future. She said she was very involved with the Police Athletic League (PAL), and she hopes this legislation passes so she can fight in her home town. Her testimony was an outline of her concerns. (Attachment 3)

Chairman Wilk thanked Ms. Alcanter, and said that he was sorry that he had an appointment and it was necessary for him to leave the meeting. He asked Vice Chair Lana Gordon to take over the meeting.

Representative Burroughs introduced Mr. Carlos Pacheco, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, International Association of Fire Fighters Human Relations Board, who spoke as a proponent. He stressed that it was a way to help kids stay out of trouble because they were busy learning the sport. He mentioned that lots of Hispanic kids want to be involved in fighting. He added that there are 45 commissioners in 45 states, and Kansas is not one of them. No written testimony was provided.

Vice Chair Gordon thanked Mr. Pacheco and asked Rep. Burroughs to introduce the next conferee. Rep. Burroughs welcomed Mr. Greg Gorrell, Wichita Retired Prize Fighter, who spoke as a proponent. Mr. Gorrell said there had been no fight in Wichita since 2001, and that it is difficult to get neighboring states to provide a commissioner. He said actually Colorado was the only adjourning state that allows its commissioner to leave the state. No written testimony was provided.

Vice Chair Gordon asked Rep. Burroughs to introduce the next conferee. Rep. Burroughs welcomed Mr. William K. Rork, Attorney at Law, who testified as a proponent of **HB 2713**. Mr. Rork said that he has been associated with boxing since 1971 in various capacities such as judging, announcing, organizing, and phases

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE at 3:30 p.m. on February 12, 2004, in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

of Golden Gloves Boxing. For the last ten years he has been involved as a judge. He said it was necessary to have a Boxing Commissioner in Kansas so the state will not lose events to other states. His testimony included a suggestion for a candidate for the first boxing commissioner. (Attachment 4)

Representative Burroughs called the committee's attention to the following written only testimony:

Representative Bonnie Sharp
Mark Ratner, Las Vegas, Nevada
John Brown, CEO Ringside, Inc. And Chairman Missouri Valley USA Boxing
Peter Howes, General Manager, Howes Entertainment, San Francisco, California
Tony Holden, President, Holden Productions, Tulsa, Oklahoma
Don Meyers, Bradenton, Florida (Attachments 5)

Vice Chair Gordon thanked Rep. Burroughs and all the conferees. She welcomed Mr. H.R. Cook, General Manager of the Kansas Expocentre, Topeka, Kansas, who spoke as an opponent of **HB 2713**. Mr. Cook mentioned the following concerns with **HB 2713**:

- Would limit ability of present local promoters to successfully promote events, as the bill requires a percentage of the gross receipts and concession revenue
- The revenues generated by a percentage of the gate receipts would not pay for a full time Commissioner
- Bundling Professional Wrestling into the bill will not increase the revenue generated by the boxing commission, but will drive entities such as World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) to other states that do not require a commission, license or surrender of 25% of broadcast rights for performances
- Difficult time competing with casinos and densely populated cities in neighboring states with larger facilities (Attachment 6)

He concluded by saying that he was not opposed to a Commissioner, but was opposed to the way the revenues are paid right now.

Vice Chair Gordon thanked Mr. Cook, and said since there were not additional conferees, the Public Hearing on **HB 2713** was closed.

Representative Hill made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2004 meeting, and Rep. Brunk seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

STATE OF KANSAS

TOM BURROUGHS
REPRESENTATIVE, THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT
WYANDOTTE COUNTY
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burroughs@house.state.ks.us



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
RANKING DEMOCRAT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE
MEMBER: FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: KANSAS INC
RANKING DEMOCRAT: JT COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
MEMBER: LEGISLATIVE POST AUDIT

TESTIMONY

CHAIRMAN WILK AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BRING BEFORE YOU TODAY HB 2713. HB2713 ESTABLISHES AN ATHLETIC COMMISSION AND THE POSITION OF BOXING COMMISSIONER.

IN JUNE 1980 THE LEGISLATURE ABOLISHED THE KANSAS ATHLETIC COMMISSION. THE MAIN REASON GIVEN BY LEGISLATIVE POST AUDIT WAS "SO FEW PROFESSIONAL BOXING MATCHES IN KANSAS (17 EVENTS DURING 1978) THAT ADMISSION TAX RECEIPTS FOR BOXING COULD NOT SUPPORT THE OPERATIONS OF A REGULATORY AGENCY." HOWEVER, THE AUDIT FOUND THERE WAS A DEFINITE NEED FOR SOME TYPE OF REGULATION.

OUR BILL WOULD ELIMINATE A STATE LAW GIVING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS LICENSING CONTROL OVER PRIZE FIGHTING, BOXING SPARRING, AND MIXED MARTIAL ARTS. INDUSTRY PARTICIPANTS WOULD INSTEAD BE LICENSED BY A BOXING COMMISSION AND/OR COMMISSIONER. IT ESTABLISHES UNIFORM GUIDELINES FOR PROMOTING AND CONDUCTING PROFESSIONAL BOUTS IN KANSAS.

OUR PRESENT SYSTEM IS TOO CUMBERSOME. CENTRALIZING AND STREAMLINING THE LICENSING PROCESS WILL HELP DRAW PROMOTERS AND ALLOW KANSAS TO COMPETE FOR TOP-FLIGHT EVENTS INCLUDING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS. ESTABLISHING A STRONG REGULATORY CLIMATE WILL INCREASE THE SAFETY FOR FIGHTERS AND CREATE A STRICT MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE FOR PROMOTERS.

THE INDUSTRY OF BOXING HAS EVOLVED. IT IS NO LONGER JUST A MAN'S SPORT. THE DISCIPLINE IS AS DIVERSE AS THE PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO IT'S GROWTH IN POPULARITY. THE PROLIFERATION OF SPORTS NETWORKS HAVE PROVIDED NEW REVENUES, MARKETING AND ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES.

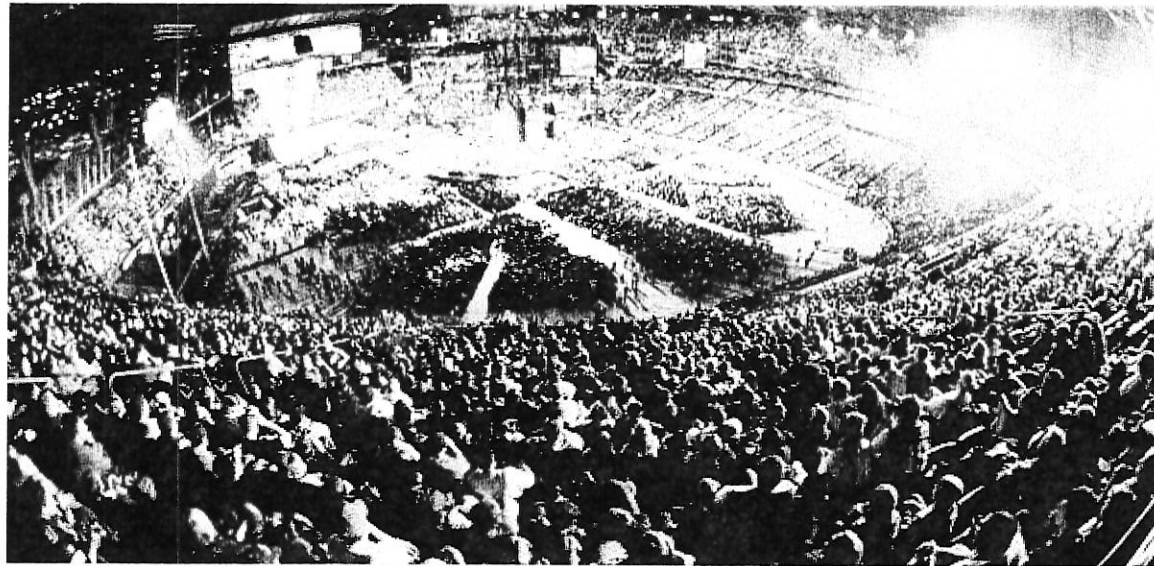
I SUBMIT TO YOU KANSAS HAS A RICH BOXING HISTORY. WE SHOULD JOIN THE MAJORITY OF OTHER STATES ACROSS OUR GREAT NATION AND PROVIDE THE INDUSTRY AND OUR KANSAS ATHLETES THE OPPORTUNITY TO FIGHT AT HOME.

I ASK FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND FAVORABLE PASSAGE OF HB2713. THANK YOU! I WILL STAND FOR QUESTIONS.

House Economic Development
2-12-04

Attachment 1

World Wrestling Entertainment™



An Overview

House Economic Development
2-12-04
Attachment 2



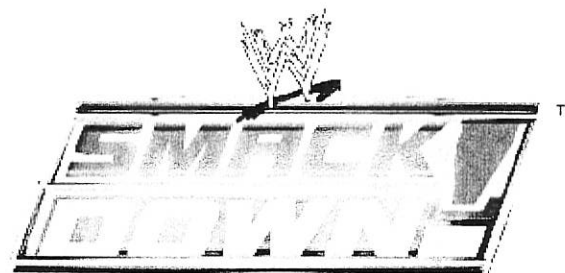
World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc.

- **Integrated media and entertainment company involved in the sports entertainment business for more than 20 years**
- **Two principal activities:**
 - **The creation, marketing and distribution of live events and televised entertainment**
 - **The marketing and promotion of branded merchandise**

U.S. TELEVISION/PROGRAMMING

2-3

- 9 hours of national programming each week delivering approximately 20 million impressions.
- No reruns; original programming year-round.
- *RAW* is consistently the top-rated regularly scheduled show on cable.
- *SmackDown!* is the top-rated regularly scheduled show on the UPN network.





INTERNATIONAL TELEVISION

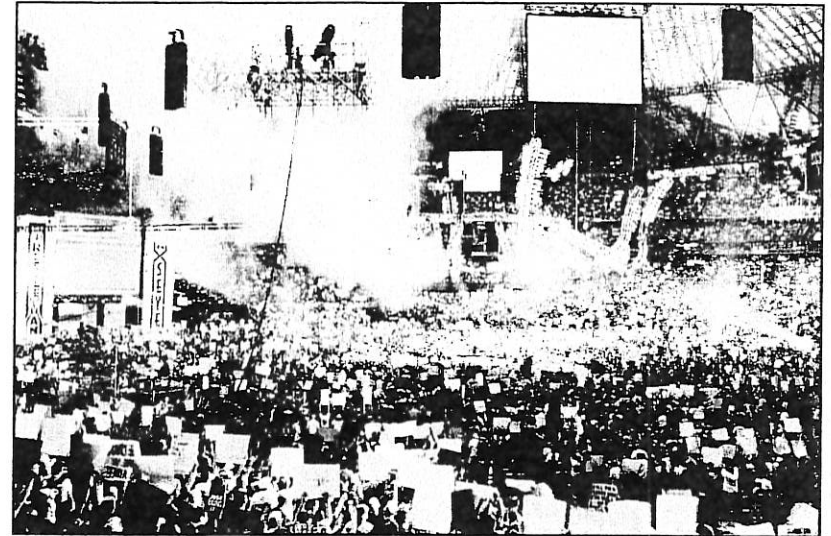
- Over 100 countries worldwide broadcast WWE programming in 12 different languages
- Over 10,000 hours of first run programming sold internationally
- Offices in Canada and United Kingdom



LIVE EVENTS

U.S.

- 2002 attendance – 2 million
- 325 scheduled events in 2003

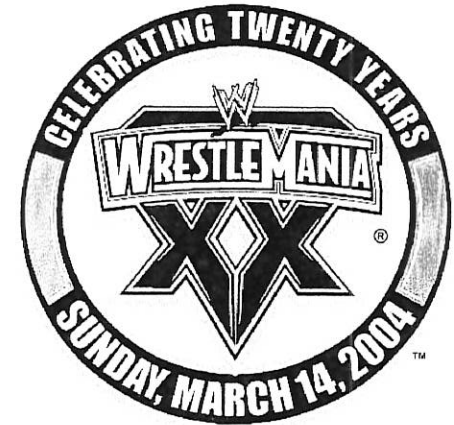


INTERNATIONAL

- WWE “sold-out” shows have been held in UK, Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Dubai, Bahrain, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Hong Kong, India and South Africa
- 4 international live event tours in 2002
- 8 international live event tours scheduled for 2003

PAY PER VIEW

- #1 PPV provider worldwide
- 12 domestic PPV events per year (one each month)
- 5.5 million worldwide PPV buys in fiscal 2003
- Distributes our PPV events to more than 100 countries



GLOBAL MEDIA

- 5.8 million unique visitors per month
- Over 200 million page views per month
- More than 6 million video streams are downloaded monthly





LICENSING

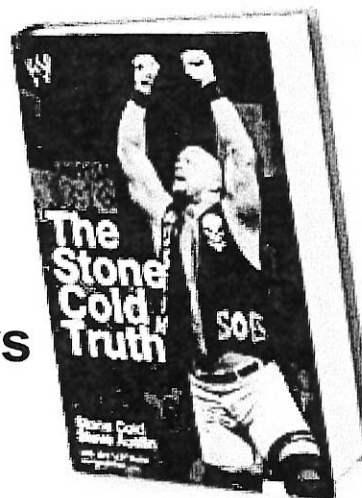
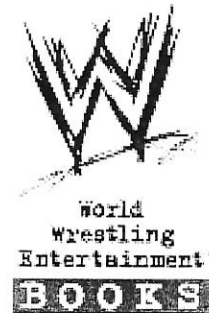
- **Over 70 domestic and international licensees**
- **Approximately \$500 million in retail sales in 2002**
- **Key licensed categories include video games, action figures, books, and trading cards**

PUBLISHING – BOOKS IN PRINT

5-2

Books In Print

- 19 titles to date
- Over 4.5 million gross units sold to date
- 12 titles have appeared on NY Times Best Seller's list
 - Three #1 Best Sellers
 - One #2 Best Seller



PUBLISHING – MAGAZINES

2-10

U.S.

- WWE and RAW Magazines sold over 7.5 million copies in the past year.

UK

- WWE and RAW Magazines sold over 2.4 million copies in the past year.
- World Wrestling Entertainment & RAW Magazines are #1 and #2 imported magazines surpassing *National Geographic*.

WORLDWIDE

- Local distribution partnerships are currently in negotiation.



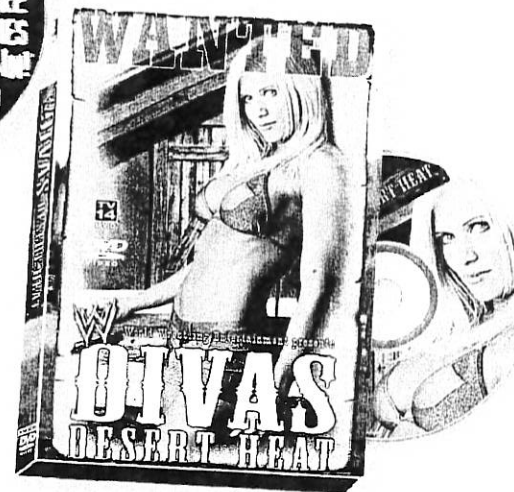
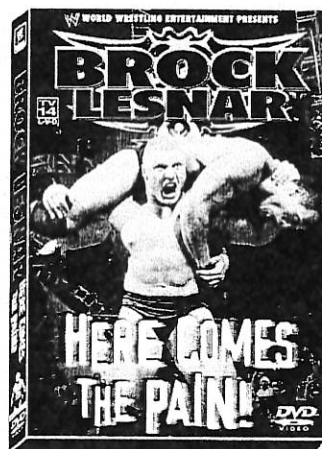


HOME VIDEO

- World Wrestling Entertainment videos and DVDs consistently rank among the top best selling home videos in the *Billboard Magazine* "Recreation Sports" category.
- Current international licensing deals in over 13 countries.
- More than 25 videos and DVD titles shipped in 2002.
- Sony is exclusive U.S. distributor

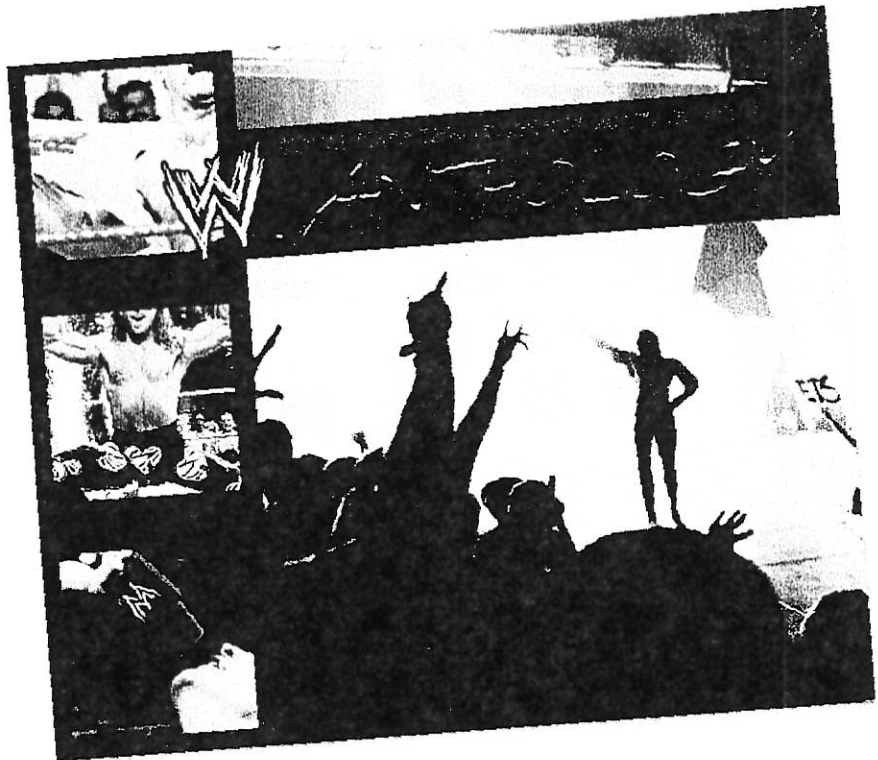


world wrestling
entertainment



MUSIC

- *WWE The Music: Volumes 3 and 4* both achieved platinum status (1 million copies sold)
- *WWE Aggression*, *WWE The Music: Volume 5* and *Forceable Entry* achieved gold status
- *WWE Anthology* shipped platinum





VIEWER PROFILE

2-13

WWE, Inc. commissioned Applied Research & Consulting LLC (ARC) to engage in a research program to learn more about WWE consumers.

World Wrestling Entertainment Adults

Income

- **Household income is \$50,735 (national average is \$40,816)**

Employment

- **53% of adult viewers 18 - 54 categorize their occupations as “professional” or “white collar”**



VIEWER PROFILE

2-14

Education

- 30% have attained a four-year college degree (national norm 20%)
- 64% have attended college (national norm 48%)

Asset Ownership

- 86% own one or more cars (average value \$17,500)
- 57% intend to purchase a new car in the near future
- Average home value is approximately 25% higher than the national average

Adoption of New Communications, Electronics and Information Media

- 77% have access to the internet (national average 60%)
- 56% own cell phones (national average 34%)
- The average viewer household owns 1.3 computers



VIEWER PROFILE

2-15

Age Demographics

- **Approximately than 20 million viewer impressions each week**
- **67% male/33% female**
- **75% are 18 or older**
- **44% are between the ages of 12 and 34**
- **31% are between the ages of 18 and 34**
- **56% are 34 or younger**
- **23% are younger than age 12**
- **Adult 18+ NASCAR viewers are 91% more likely to watch WWE programming than the typical U.S. adult 18+**

CHAIRMAN WILK AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

- 1) Pride of a Native Kansas City Kansan
 - a) Disappointment of being mis-announced
 - b) Fighting out of State
 - c) The honor to fight in State
- 2) Growth of Kansas
 - a) Race track, semi pro-sport, pro-sports
 - b) P.A.L. Organization
 - c) Community involvement with youth
 - d) The need of own Athletic Commission
- 3) Growth of the Sport of Boxing
 - a) Youth, Discipline, Community involvement
 - b) The need of own Athletic Commission
 - c) Growth of Events in other states bringing revenue

Thank You! I stand for questions.

Franchises Alcantas

House Economic Development
2-12-04

Attachment 3

WILLIAM K. RORK



RORK
LAW OFFICE

e-mail
rork@rorklaw.com

<http://www.rorklaw.com/>

February 6, 2004

1321 SW Topeka Blvd. • Topeka, KS 66612-1816
Phone 785.235.1650 Fax 785.235.2421

Rep. Tom Burroughs
300 SW 10th Ave
Room 284-W
Topeka, KS 66603

RE: Boxing Commissioner

Dear Mr. Burroughs:

I appreciate the opportunity to write and provide whatever information I can, reference support of House Bill No. 2713 reference Boxing Commissioner for the State of Kansas.

I have been associated with boxing, in one form or another, since 1972. For at least the last ten years I have been involved as a judge, for many of the boxing matches put on in the Topeka, KS and surrounding areas. Earlier on, I was associated with judging, announcing, organizing, and various other phases in Golden Gloves Boxing.

I fully understand that if a Boxing Commissioner is not established in this State, Kansas will lose in having those activities needing to be presented in surrounding states. I have a lot of appreciation for the manner in which boxing has been handled here. I know as the boxing matches continue, larger and larger venues are a result.

From holding the semi-finals for the Golden Glove Boxing Association, whose winners went to the training camp in Colorado Springs, to other boxing matches in the area, this sport is greatly attended by people within the community. There are many financial and other incentives involved.

It is hard to describe and to put words in a letter expressing how significant the importance for passing this House Bill No. 2713 is. I understand the matter is to have testimony on Thursday, February 12, 2004 starting at around 3:30PM. I will be present and would be available to make such statements or address any questions you or other members of the Committee may have.

"In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right . . .
to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence"



House Economic Development
2-12-04
Attachment 4

February 6, 2004
Page 2

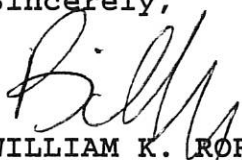


RORK LAW OFFICE

I know that Pete Jackson, a local fireman here, has been associated with every boxing match in this State. He has a clear understanding of the duties involved and administers his responsibilities, very carefully. I believe he would be a great asset, should the legislation pass, for nomination as the first Commissioner. He has been involved in all facets of the boxing association events, and is well recognized by other Commissioners who must travel from surrounding states, when we hold fights, here in Kansas.

Again, your efforts in sponsoring this legislation is greatly appreciated. Kansas will continue to thrive in this area, as many of our athletes continue traveling throughout the United States and the world, competing in professional fights.

Sincerely,


WILLIAM K. RORK

WKR/ag

t1b tbrgh

BONNIE SHARP
REPRESENTATIVE, THIRTY-FIRST DISTRICT
WYANDOTTE COUNTY
4218 DIXIE COURT
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66106
(913) 831-2339

STATE CAPITOL—RM. 273-W
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1504
(785) 296-7656



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
MEMBER: APPROPRIATIONS
PUBLIC SAFETY BUDGET
COMMITTEE
STATE TRIBAL RELATIONS JOINT
COMMITTEE

Thank you Chairman Wilk and Committee members for allowing me to submit written testimony today.

I stand in support of House Bill 2713, which creates a State Boxing Commission. Many talented athletics live in my district and across our great state; however, some cannot participate in their chosen profession in Kansas. Our state lacks the structure and oversight to allow boxing and other similar professional venues. Unless a “Commission” is established soon, our young professionals will not be able to showcase their talents in their home state.

I have listened to these professionals and after talking to many experts in the field, I believe House Bill 2713 is necessary to address their concerns. Therefore, I ask for your consideration and favorable passage of House Bill 2713.

Bonnie Sharp
House Economic Development
2-12-04
Attachment 5

TOM BURROUGHS
REPRESENTATIVE, THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT
WYANDOTTE COUNTY
3131 S. 73RD TERRACE
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66106
(913) 375-1956
STATE CAPITOL—RM. 284-W
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1504
(785) 296-7688
(1-800) 432-3924
burroughs@house.state.ks.us



TOPEKA
HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
RANKING DEMOCRAT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE
MEMBER: FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: KANSAS INC
RANKING DEMOCRAT: JT. COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
MEMBER: LEGISLATIVE POST AUDIT

IAN 28 2004

January 23, 2004

Marc Ratner
555 East Washington - Suite 3200
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

Marc,

I sincerely appreciate your interest and support in my attempt to establish an athletic commission for the State of Kansas. It is my hope to establish Kansas as a major Boxing venue in the midwest. I anticipate we will be successful in passing legislation, however in this early stage I am still in need of guidance and direction. If you could provide the following:

1) Total Revenue and Sources

- . %'s
- . Fees, Taxes, Licenses, etc.

See attached reports

2) Make-Up of Commission

- . Appointments
- . Salaries/Reimbursements

*5 commissioners, 3 yr terms, 2 expire each year, 1 best year
\$800 for each full day meeting*

3) Agency Responsible for Commission

- . Tourism *NO*
- . Commerce *NO*
- . Economic Development *NO*

*Department of Business & Industry
State of Nevada*

4) The Number of Events, Venues, & Estimated Attendance.

- . Casino
- . Arena

See attached listing of attendance, gate & TV revenues

Also, anything else you feel is important or relevant is greatly appreciated.

Thank you again for your guidance and interest. I look forward to speaking with you again. Our fax number is 785-368-6365. Please also mail me a hard copy.

Respectfully,

Tom
Tom Burroughs
State Representative

RINGSIDE INC.

"THE BEST IN BOXING"

6950 DICE LANE
LENEXA, KS 66215-1152877-4-BOXING
(913) 888-7766
(913) 888-2198 FAX
WWW.RINGSIDE.COM

February 11, 2004

Tom Burroughs
State of Kansas Representative
Federal Court District

Dear Representative Burroughs:

I hope this letter finds you enjoying excellent health.

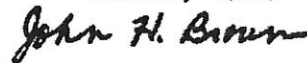
I just wanted to give to you my signed endorsement of your house bill concerning the establishment of a state athletic commission.

Without question a stable and well-organized athletic commission in the state of Kansas will provide the potential of bringing many top quality athletic events to the state. The regulation of these events will make them safe, and make the state of Kansas attractive to promoters from around the country as a possible venue.

I know that there is interest in the promotion of professional boxing, mixed martial arts, and other combat arts in the state of Kansas and the commission again will be able to regulate and insure the safety of the participants.

I think this commission will have a positive economic impact on the state of Kansas eventually and I wish you the best of luck with the passage of your bill.

Sincerely Yours,

John Brown,
CEO Ringside, Inc.
Chairman Missouri Valley USA Boxing

Fightnews.com

Boxing hits high-water mark!

2003 had most fight cards in a decade...

February 4, 2004

Compiled by Gregory P. Sirb, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission, in cooperation with Anibal Miramontes of Fight Fax and the members of the ABC.

In terms of number of shows, professional boxing in the United States and Canada had its biggest year in the last decade. According to a detailed analysis broken down by commission, 2003 saw a total of 856 pro boxing shows (an increase of 4.5% from 2002). The total represented the largest number of shows since 1993.

Commission	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
ALABAMA*	9	7	10	9	8	3	5	7	6	6	5
ALASKA*	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
ARIZONA	21	15	14	20	19	17	11	19	15	13	12
ARKANSAS	5	1	4	6	8	3	0	1	5	5	9
CALGARY								1	2	0	1
CALIFORNIA	76	84	84	89	92	90	82	102	85	88	108
Chippewa (Michigan)											2
Choctaw Nation (Mississippi)											2
COLORADO	9	8	9	12	11	10	7	14	24	23	10
CONNECTICUT	5	12	11	12	18	14	2	3	1	1	0
DELAWARE*	0	0	2	3	2	2	2	3	6	3	4
EDMONTON								3	5	2	3
FLORIDA	48	37	42	49	55	56	58	40	33	38	37
GEORGIA	7	3	9	5	5	13	15	13	13	17	18
HAWAII	1	6	4	3	3	3	1	5	6	3	2
IDAHO	8	4	4	9	10	12	10	5	4	4	6
ILLINOIS	23	26	23	18	30	31	35	31	25	20	20
INDIANA	25	14	12	12	15	19	30	27	22	24	36
IOWA	27	29	15	21	16	14	23	14	10	10	6
KANSAS*	8	2	1	5	7	6	3		4	3	4
KENTUCKY	41	36	47	23	17	10	18	10	10	11	6
LOUISIANA	7	20	21	10	15	23	21	12	7	20	13
MAINE	8	5	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
MANITOBA								2	8	7	9
MARYLAND	12	13	21	22	17	14	15	13	8	9	9
MASSACHUSETTS	8	27	35	24	20	18	14	12	14	16	13

MASHANTUCKET								10	5	6	4	5
MICCOSUKEE								11	6	9	5	6
MICHIGAN	19	24	22	14	10	12	15	19	18	18	21	
MINNESOTA*	5	10	7	6	9	8	7	1	8	14	11	
MISSISSIPPI	26	18	7	16	23	22	42	31	22	14	12	
MISSOURI	35	22	21	41	35	43	41	27	40	26	30	
MOHEGAN							0	4	7	3	7	
MONCTON								1	1	1	0	
MONTANA	5	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0		0	
MONTREAL		7	6	6	6	8	7	10	5	3	5	
NANAIMO(Canada)								0	0	0	0	
NEBRASKA	3	6	8	5	6	10	12	7	3	6	8	
NEVADA	35	61	54	32	47	43	41	64	55	58	55	
NEW HAMPSHIRE	4	3	3	2	1	0	2	2	1	2	2	
NEW JERSEY	39	34	39	30	39	36	16	16	19	19	19	
NEW MEXICO	5	9	7	7	9	9	9	11	6	11	13	
NEW YORK	30	19	26	32	30	23	16	31	28	22	17	
NORTH CAROLINA	17	20	19	14	12	15	12	13	3	13	17	
NORTH DAKOTA	9	5	7	4	1	5	6	3	5	3	1	
NOVA SCOTIA								3	1	3	3	
OHIO	14	10	15	11	8	19	16	19	21	26	21	
OKLAHOMA	23	0	7	12	2	1	4	5	14	15	19	
ONIEDA nation(NY)							6	4	2	2	3	
ONTARIO		4	7	6	2	2	4	9	5	6	6	
OREGON	1	0	0	0	0	1	5	6	3	6	3	
Pascua Yaq. Tribe (AZ)												1
PENNSYLVANIA	46	42	37	46	53	40	28	45	52	45	54	
PRINCE GEORGE								0	0	0	0	
PUEBLO OF SAN JUAN*								6	2	1	0	
PUERTO RICO	19	15	22	20	31	23	8	7	15	15	7	
RHODE ISLAND	3	2	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	3	3	
SAGINAW CHIPP-MICH							6	4	2	1	0	
Siletz Tribe (Oregon)												0
SOUTH CAROLINA	9	8	3	3	4	3	5	2	9	15	13	
SOUTH DAKOTA*	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Southern Ute(Colo)												3
TENNESSEE	35	25	21	26	64	44	21	21	19	18	23	
TEXAS	51	42	49	48	41	51	53	56	62	68	65	
Tohono O' Odham(AZ)												4
UTAH	4	4	0	0	1	0	3	1	7	1	7	
VANCOUVER								1	2	0	0	
VERMONT	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
VICTORIA								0	1	0	0	
VIRGINIA	23	24	9	16	19	16	23	6	14	10	7	
Virgin Islands												1
WASHINGTON	8	1	9	23	12	6	23	9	13	13	15	
WASHINGTON, D.C.	5	7	7	2	4	6	10	5	4	7	10	

WEST VIRGINIA	8	7	8	11	7	14	10	17	14	12	16
WISCONSIN	2	1	5	6	3	6	3	9	7	5	5
WYOMING*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Yakama Nation(WA)									1	1	2
TOTAL	831	779	800	803	855	828	854	830	825	819	856
Differences		-52	+21	+3	+52	-27	+26	-24	-5	-6	+37
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		6.7%	2.7%	.5%	6.5%	3.2%	3%	2.9%	-.5%	-.5%	4.5%
*=No Commission											

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9:20 AM

1/29/04

Accrual Basis

Athletic Commission - Revenue
Profit & Loss
July 1, 2003 through January 29, 2004

4-5

	<u>Jul 1, '03 - Jan 29, 04</u>
Income	
3001 Live Gate Fees	725,988.81
3002 Permits	4,100.00
3003 License Fees	48,675.00
3004 TV Fees	249,632.94
3005 Fines	7,700.00
3006 Misc. Income	561.25
3007 Grant Funds	39,765.00
3008 Comp Gate Fees	39,268.82
	<hr/>
Total Income	1,115,691.82
Expense	0.00
	<hr/>
Net Income	<u>1,115,691.82</u>

9:21 AM

,1/29/04

Accrual Basis

Athletic Commission - Revenue
Profit & Loss
July 2002 through June 2003

8-5

	<u>Jul '02 - Jun 03</u>
Income	
3001 Live Gate Fees	1,211,679.66
3002 Permits	12,275.00
3003 License Fees	109,975.00
3004 TV Fees	553,331.17
3005 Fines	102,570.00
3006 Misc. Income	207.25
3007 Grant Funds	85,640.00
3008 Comp Gate Fees	126,965.16
Total Income	<u>2,202,643.24</u>
Expense	0.00
Net Income	<u><u>2,202,643.24</u></u>

Howes

E n t e r t a i n m e n t



February 3, 2004

Representative Tom Burroughs
Room 284 West
State Capital
Topika, KS 66612-1504

Dear Representative Burroughs:

I am not surprised to learn that your legislation to start an Athletic Commission in Kansas has gained such momentum! I know that you and Representative Bonnie Sharp have invested considerable time in conducting your research and drafting your Bill. I also know that you have assembled an exceptional *brain trust* of advisors to advance the interests of your State with respect to those sports that could now be properly regulated.

While the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 and the Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act of 2000 have done much to improve the sport, State oversight continues to be the most effective in assuring compliance with necessary rules and regulations. Your Athletic Commission will provide for safety and professionalism while at the same time generating revenue from fees and event taxes. I am sure, if passed, that the Kansas State Athletic Commission will become a model in the industry.

Please let me know if I can assist in any way.

Sincerely,

Peter Howes
General Manager

HOLDEN PRODUCTIONS

February 12, 2004

To: Home Economic Development Committee
Attn: Kenny Wilk

Dear Sirs,

I am sorry that I can not be there today in person but I would like to voice how I stand on the issue of a Boxing Commission in the State of Kansas. It is very important for a State to have a commission in place because it instills integrity, and most important the well being and safety for the fighters. I refuse to promote a show in a state without a Boxing Commission. If Kansas does form a Commission, I would like to bring a few televised TV productions to the State. Thank you for your time and I hope that the committee will consider forming a Boxing Commission for the State of Kansas.

Sincerely,



Tony Holden
President

From: "donmeyers " <donmeyers@donmeyers.com>
To: <donmeyers@donmeyers.com>
Date: Mon, Feb 9, 2004 8:54 AM
Subject: Toughman and Kansas

My name is Don Meyers, I am asking you to bring new legislation to the sport of amateur boxing in your state. Specifically you must look at Art Dore's Toughman Contest. Since my sister-in-law was killed in Sarasota, June 2003, I have been active in bringing attention to the issues surrounding Toughman. Her story was featured in People magazine in the December 8th edition.

On January 14, 2004, Illinois's Governor outlawed Toughman by emergency amendment, I was present at the announcement. Washington State, Idaho, Florida to name a few states will soon be taking action. Be apart of the change!

You already have heard that Toughman will put the contest on an Indian reservation to avoid state boxing commission regulations. Toughman will also use their own nonprofit organization the American Boxing and Athletic Association (ABAA), or their Professional American Kickboxing Association (PAKA) to sponsor the event to avoid state statutes as has been occurring in Illinois and Wisconsin.

We all know that the Toughman organization will not follow its published rules. For the promoters of Toughman this behavior is acceptable. If a boxer had this behavior, the boxer would have been disciplined and banned from the sport long ago. Even USA Boxing will not allow its boxers to participate in a Toughman contest because of its risks.

Don't just take my word for it check out <http://www.ikfkickboxing.com/News03June.htm> for more information.

Maybe you need moral cause to take action or to ban the promoter. Art Dore has been sited in several legal issues and scandals, stemming from sales tax misreporting to money laundering.

Act now and bring new regulations to your state. I invite you to be part of the cooperative between states that I have formed, www.CombativeSports.Org. Currently we have eight states represented, and we are growing but you must be willing commit to bringing legislation and change.

Thank you,
Don Meyers
12323 Hollybush Terrace
Bradenton FL 34202
941-920-2133 Cell



February 12, 2004

Kansas House Committee of Economic Development
Mr. Kenny Fulk, Committee Chairman
State Capitol Building, Room 526-S
300 SW 10th
Topeka, KS 66612

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Honorary Committee members for allowing me to speak in behalf of State Economic Development regarding current testimony in opposition of House Bill No. 2713.

I am H.R. Cook, General Manager of the Kansas Expocentre, Topeka, Kansas.

As General Manager of one of the major arenas in Kansas, I have several concerns with House Bill No. 2713, the creation of an Athletic Commission. More specifically, my concern lies with the formation of a full-time Boxing Commissioner.

Presently, there is a handful of boxing promoters in the State of Kansas. Damon Reed, an aspiring local promoter, successfully brings boxing events to the Kansas Expocentre. He continues to grow as a promoter and to lay the groundwork in becoming affiliated with HBO, Don King and others. House Bill No. 2713 would effectively limit his ability to successfully promote events, as the bill requires a percentage of the gross receipts and concession revenue. As a result, Mr. Reid will face changing venues to buildings out-of-state or he will be forced into abandoning this career route altogether.

The Kansas Expocentre hosts an average of two professional boxing events and one professional wrestling event each year. Total gate receipts for all categories listed in House Bill No. 2713 totaled no more than \$65,000 in 2003. Having managed arenas in states with a Boxing Commission, I have experienced the practice of up to 5% of gate receipts going to the Boxing Commission. Given the amount of boxing type events in the State of Kansas, the revenues generated by a percentage of the gate receipts would not pay for a full time Commissioner. Most promoters who rent the Kansas Expocentre operate with very thin profit margins. Although highly valued by local enthusiasts, these types of sporting events do not draw the crowds as in other states. Many times arenas must "co-promote" the events and share a percentage of concessions, which would normally stay in the hands of the arenas and contracted concessionaires. If the commission was to receive a share of concessions and other novelties, a "fourth hand" now takes another piece of the pie - further eroding profit margins for all involved. This greatly sacrifices the variety of events available locally that the patrons have demanded as a result of their taxpayer dollars. Therefore, they may also choose to go out-of-state to events as a rule.

House Economic Development
2-12-04

I am not opposed to the formation of the position of Boxing Commissioner to oversee the sport of boxing and the strict control of "toughman" type events. Based on experience and extensive knowledge of this industry, I feel that bundling Professional Wrestling into House Bill No. 2713 will not increase

the revenue generated by the boxing commission. It will, however, drive entities such as World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) to other states that do not require a commission, license or surrender of 25% of broadcast rights for these performances.

Kansas arenas and coliseums currently have a difficult time competing with casinos and densely populated cities in neighboring states with larger facilities. The casinos can afford to use events as a "loss leader" to draw people to their buildings where they can make up any losses through the gain from gambling. Large buildings generally have big name acts coming to them as the seating capacity and population warrants the risk of putting an event at their venue. Locally, we have to balance the risk with the possible gain and walk a fine line when we attract larger events. Our margins are tighter than larger venues and we cannot afford to lose or even break even on events. Restrictions and fees imposed on venues for events outlined in House Bill No. 2713, will force us to reevaluate and turn away potential promoters to other states, as these fees will erode or erase our profit potential.

As employers leave, Topeka has recently seen substantial losses to their economy. Statewide we are currently preparing task forces to prevent even larger losses as military base closings loom in the shadows. With these things in mind, careful consideration should be given to amending House Bill 2713, so we are not purposefully voting in additional losses to our economic growth.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kindest Regards,



H.R. Cook
General Manager
Kansas Expocentre/SMG