

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Business and Labor

**Fiscal:** No Fiscal Impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

**Action Date:** 05/27/15

**Action:** Do Pass.

**Meeting Dates:** 05/27

**Vote:**

Yeas: 11 - Barreto, Barton, Doherty, Esquivel, Evans, Fagan, Heard, Holvey, Kennemer, Nosse, Weidner

**Prepared By:** Jan Nordlund, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Clarifies authority of certain designees of Oregon State Athletic Commission in conduct of boxing and mixed martial arts events.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Application only to professional events, not amateur events
- Security staffing at events

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

In Oregon, the Oregon State Police (OSP) is the regulatory body for boxing, entertainment wrestling and mixed martial arts. As part of regulating both boxing and mixed martial arts, OSP is responsible for the staffing of the Oregon State Athletic Commission (OSAC) representatives, officials, and medical personnel at both boxing and mixed martial arts events. Current statutes provide that boxing matches are required to have specific OSAC representatives in attendance; however, there is no reference to OSAC attendance at mixed martial arts events. Senate Bill 237 clarifies that mixed martial arts events are prohibited from commencing without the required OSAC representatives in attendance.

Current statutes require an OSAC-approved physician to a conduct pre-fight medical examination of each boxing or mixed martial arts event contestant; however, the statute also makes reference to “medical personnel” who can certify that contestants are medically qualified to fight. As such, and per approval by the OSAC’s Medical Advisory Committee, non-physician medical personnel have been conducting pre-fight physicals as well as working events and, when appropriate, having their work product reviewed by physicians, certifying that contestants are medically qualified to fight. Senate Bill 237 clarifies that physicians *or other medical personnel* approved by the commission can conduct pre-fight medical examinations. The measure clarifies that medical personnel assigned to the event by OSAC must certify that contestants are medically qualified to participate in the boxing or mixed martial arts event in accordance with rules recommended by OSAC and adopted by the Superintendent of State Police.