



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Committee Statement
LB 471

Hearing Date: February 8, 2007

Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Introducer(s): (Chambers)

Title: Authorize regulation of mixed martial arts by the State Athletic Commissioner

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

- Advanced to General File
 - X Advanced to General File with Amendments
 - Indefinitely Postponed
-

Vote Results:

6	Yes	Senators Aguilar, Friend, Karpisek, Mines, Pahls, Rogert
0	No	
0	Present, not voting	
2	Absent	Senators Adams, Avery

Proponents:

Senator Ernie Chambers
Wally Jernigan
Lynn Rex
Martin Andersen
Tim Bazer
Jack Cheloha

Representing:

Introducer
Athletic Commission
League of Nebraska Municipalities
Self
Self
City of Omaha

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 471 authorizes the State Athletic Commissioner to regulate mixed martial arts. Specifically, the State Athletic Commissioner is authorized, among other things, to issue licenses and permits; require bonds for licenses; require referees to be in attendance; grant licenses for judges; and require licensees to pay a tax of five percent of the gross receipts of any professional or amateur mixed martial arts match or exhibition. The State Athletic Commissioner is allowed to make rules and regulations for the administration and enforcement of mixed martial arts.

Professional mixed martial arts matches or exhibitions will not exceed three rounds in length, except a championship match, which will not exceed five rounds. No round will be longer than five minutes with at least one minute between rounds.

The Athletic Advisory Committee membership is increased from five to six. The bill requires one member to be or have been active in mixed martial arts.

Mixed martial arts is defined as an unarmed combat sport in which two competitors seek to achieve dominance by utilizing a combination of permitted martial arts techniques, including, but not limited to, grappling, kicking, and striking.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

The committee amendment adds an emergency clause to the bill.

Senator Ray Aguilar, Chairperson