

Senate Bill No. 27

(By Senators Barnes and Sypolt)

[Introduced January 12, 2011; referred to the Committee on the
Judiciary.]

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A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by
adding thereto a new section, designated §29-5A-3a, relating
to authorizing mixed martial arts competitions; and
authorizing the State Athletic Commission to propose rules.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended
by adding thereto a new section, designated §29-5A-3a, to read as
follows:

ARTICLE 5A. STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION.

§29-5A-3a. Mixed martial arts competitions.

Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the contrary,
mixed martial arts competitions or mixed martial arts tournaments
are authorized and lawful. "Mixed martial arts" means a full
contact combat sport that allows a wide variety of fighting

1 techniques, from a mixture of martial arts traditions and
2 nontraditions.

3 The State Athletic Commission shall propose rules for
4 legislative approval in accordance with the provisions of article
5 three, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code. Such rules shall be in
6 accordance to accepted practice utilizing the rules adopted by the
7 New Jersey State Athletic Control Board, Mixed Martial Arts Unified
8 Rules of Conduct.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to authorize mixed martial
arts competitions. The State Athletic Commission has rule-making
authority.

This section is new; therefore, strike-throughs and
underscoring have been omitted.