

2012 -- S 2701

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO SPORTS, RACING AND ATHLETICS - MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

Introduced By: Senators Goodwin, Jabour, and Miller

Date Introduced: March 01, 2012

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 41-5.2 of the General Laws entitled "Mixed Martial Arts" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following sections:

3 **41-5.2-28. Suspension or revocation of license.** – Any license granted under this chapter
4 may be revoked or suspended by the division of racing and athletics for a violation of any of the
5 provisions of this chapter or of any other law of the state or of any rule or regulation adopted by
6 the division or whenever the licensee has, in the judgment of the division, been guilty of any act
7 or offense detrimental to the public interest.

8 **41-5.2-29. Physical knockouts.** – (a) Any contestant suffering a physical knockout
9 during a mixed martial arts match shall, at the request of his or her manager or the division of
10 racing and athletics, undergo a magnetic resonant imaging (MRI) or computerized tomography
11 (CT) test scan within twenty-four (24) hours of the request. Failure to comply with the request
12 within the prescribed time shall cause the contestant's license to be revoked by operation of law
13 and shall render the contestant permanently ineligible for future licensing under this chapter.

14 (b) The license of any contestant suffering five (5) physical knockouts in any twelve (12)
15 month period shall be revoked by operation of law and the contestant shall be permanently
16 ineligible for future licensing as a contestant under this chapter.

17 (c) Every contestant suffering a physical knockout, at the discretion of the division of
18 racing and athletics, shall be ineligible to perform in a mixed martial arts match licensed under
19 this chapter until sixty (60) days have elapsed following the date of the knockout. The license of

1 every contestant shall be revoked by operation of law whenever he or she suffers a physical
2 knockout.

3 (d) Every contestant suffering a physical knockout during a mixed martial arts match
4 shall submit to an examination by the physician in attendance immediately following his or her
5 removal from the ring and shall within two (2) hours of the knockout submit to a complete
6 examination at a local hospital named by the physician in attendance.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would broaden the powers of the division of racing and athletics to revoke or
2 suspend licenses granted under this chapter. In addition, this act would require certain medical
3 examinations in the event a mixed martial arts fighter suffers from a physical knockout during a
4 mixed martial arts match.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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