

SS SCS HCS HB 1388 -- CERTAIN SPORTS CONTESTS

AMATEUR SPORTING EVENT TAX CREDIT

This bill reauthorizes the Amateur Sporting Events Tax Credit until August 28, 2025, while making various other changes. Bid fees and financial guarantees are added to the definition of "eligible costs" used to determine the amount of a tax credit authorized, and the bill extends the deadline for a tax credit applicant to submit eligible costs and proper documentation from 30 to 90 days following the conclusion of a sporting event. The bill adds the Amateur Athletic Union, the National Christian College Athletic Association, the National Junior College Athletic Association, the United States Sports Specialty Association, and rights holder members of the National Association of Sports Commissions to the list of "site selection organizations" that determine tax credit qualifying sporting events. The definition of "sporting events" is then expanded to include collegiate competitions.

The bill further provides that the tax credit authorized by the Amateur Sporting Events Tax Credit program for the hosting of a qualifying sporting event shall be the least of 100% of eligible costs, an amount equal to \$5 for every admission ticket, or an amount equal to \$10 for every paid participant registration if the sporting event did not sell admission tickets. The latter two values shall be calculated using the actual number of tickets sold or registrations paid, not estimates.

Furthermore, for purposes of having a certified support contract necessary for receiving a tax credit, site selection organizations need not use a competitive bid process when organizing any previously-awarded event that is held due to a contract extension or any collegiate football bowl games or other neutral-site games with at least one out-of-state team. However, in no event shall the amount of tax credits authorized exceed \$2.7 million in any fiscal year for sporting events located in Jackson County, St. Louis County, or St. Louis City.

This bill also extends the sunset for a tax credit for contributions to a local organizing committee or certified sponsor from August 28, 2019, to August 28, 2025 (Section 67.3000, RSMo).

FANTASY SPORTS CONTEST OPERATORS

The bill creates an exception to the audit requirement for fantasy sports contest operators with a net revenue of \$250,000 or less in a calendar year. However, the Missouri Gaming Commission can perform an audit on such operators at its own expense. If an audit uncovers evidence of a violation the operator shall pay the

Commission for the cost of the audit (Section 313.940).

MISSOURI OFFICE OF ATHLETICS

This bill adds amateur kickboxing and amateur mixed martial arts to the list of contests the Division of Professional Registration has the authority to regulate. The bill requires that all contestants, other than amateur kickboxing contestants, be at least 18 years old and that all promoters provide a surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit before receiving a license. The bill also prohibits and restricts the use of certain strikes in amateur mixed martial arts.

The bill removes the requirement that announcers and managers of professional boxing, sparring, professional wrestling, professional kickboxing, and professional full-contact karate be licensed by the division (Sections 317.006 to 317.019).