Union Calendar No. 134 H.R. 1065

109TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

[Report No. 109-209, Parts I and II]

To establish the United States Boxing Commission to protect the general welfare of boxers and to ensure fairness in the sport of professional boxing.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 2, 2005

Mr. STEARNS (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. BROWN of Ohio) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

JULY 28, 2005

Reported from the Committee on Energy and Commerce with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

JULY 28, 2005

Referral to the Committee on Education and the Workforce extended for a period ending not later than September 30, 2005

JULY 28, 2005

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period ending not later than September 30, 2005 for consideration of such provisions of the bill and the amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(l), rule X

SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

Reported from the Committee on the Judiciary with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in boldface roman]

September 30, 2005

Committee on Education and the Workforce discharged; committed to the

Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 2, 2005]

A BILL

- To establish the United States Boxing Commission to protect the general welfare of boxers and to ensure fairness in the sport of professional boxing.
 - 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
 - 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the "United States Boxing5 Commission Act".

6 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

- As used in this Act, the following definitions apply:
 (1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission"
 means the United States Boxing Commission established under section 3.
- 11 (2) BOXER.—The term "boxer" means an indi12 vidual who fights in a professional boxing match.
- (3) BOXING COMMISSION.—The term 'boxing
 commission" means an entity authorized under State
 or tribal law to regulate professional boxing matches.
 (4) INDIAN LANDS.—The term 'Indian lands"
 has the meanings given that terms by paragraphs (4)

of section 4 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25
 U.S.C. 2703).

(5) JUDGE.—The term "judge" means an official 3 4 who scores a boxing match to determine the winner. 5 (6) MANAGER.—The term "manager" means a 6 person other than a promoter who, under contract, 7 agreement, or other arrangement with a boxer, under-8 takes to control or administer, directly or indirectly, 9 a boxing-related matter on behalf of that boxer, in-10 cluding a person who is a booking agent for a boxer. 11 MATCHMAKER.—The term "matchmaker" (7)12 means a person that proposes, selects, and arranges 13 for boxers to participate in a professional boxing 14 match. Such term does not include a hotel, casino, re-15 sort, or other commercial establishment hosting or 16 sponsoring a professional boxing match, or a provider 17 of cable, satellite, or network television programming, 18 unless—

19(A) the hotel, casino, resort, or other com-20mercial establishment, or provider of cable, sat-21ellite, or network television programming is pri-22marily responsible for proposing, selecting, and23arranging for boxers to participate in the profes-24sional boxing match; and

1	(B) there is no other person primarily re-
2	sponsible for proposing, selecting, and arranging
3	for boxers to participate in the match.
4	(8) REFEREE.—The term "referee" means the of-
5	ficial inside the boxing ring who supervises the boxing
6	match.
7	(9) Professional boxing match.—The term
8	"professional boxing match" means a boxing contest
9	held in the United States between individuals for fi-
10	nancial compensation. Such term does not include a
11	boxing contest that is regulated by a duly recognized
12	amateur sports organization, as approved by the
13	Commission.
14	(10) PROMOTER.—The term "promoter"—
15	(A) means the person primarily responsible
16	for organizing, promoting, and producing a pro-
17	fessional boxing match; but
18	(B) does not include a hotel, casino, resort,
19	or other commercial establishment hosting or
20	sponsoring a professional boxing match, or a
21	provider of cable, satellite, or network television
22	programming, unless—
23	(i) the hotel, casino, resort, or other
24	commercial establishment, or provider of
25	cable, satellite, or network television pro-

1	gramming is primarily responsible for or-
2	ganizing, promoting, and producing the
3	match; and
4	(ii) there is no other person primarily
5	responsible for organizing, promoting, and
6	producing the match.
7	(11) STATE.—The term "State" means each of
8	the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia,
9	and any territory or possession of the United States,
10	including the Virgin Islands.
11	(12) SANCTIONING ORGANIZATION.—The term
12	"sanctioning organization" means an organization,
13	other than a boxing commission, that sanctions pro-
14	fessional boxing matches, ranks professional boxers, or
15	charges a sanctioning fee for professional boxing
16	matches in the United States—
17	(A) between boxers who are residents of dif-
18	ferent States; or
19	(B) that are advertised, otherwise promoted,
20	or broadcast (including closed circuit television)
21	in interstate commerce.
22	(13) SUSPENSION.—The term "suspension" in-
23	cludes within its meaning the temporary revocation of
24	a boxing license.

1	(14) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term "tribal
2	organization" has the same meaning as in section
3	4(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education
4	Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(l)).
5	SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITED STATES BOXING COM-
6	MISSION.
7	(a) IN GENERAL.—The United States Boxing Commis-
8	sion is established as a commission within the Department
9	of Commerce.
10	(b) Members.—
11	(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall consist
12	of 3 members appointed by the President, by and
13	with the advice and consent of the Senate.
14	(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—No member of the Com-
15	mission may, while serving as a member of the Com-
16	mission—
17	(A) be engaged as a professional boxer, box-
18	ing promoter, agent, fight manager, matchmaker,
19	referee, judge, or in any other capacity in the
20	conduct of the business of professional boxing;
21	(B) have any pecuniary interest in the
22	earnings of any boxer or the proceeds or outcome
23	of any boxing match; or
24	(C) serve as a member of a boxing commis-
25	sion.

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(3) BIPARTISAN MEMBERSHIP.—Not more than 2

 3 same political party. 4 (4) GEOGRAPHIC BALANCE.—Not more than 5 members of the Commission may be residents of 6 same geographic region of the United States when 7 pointed to the Commission. For purposes of the p 8 ceding sentence, the area of the United States eas 	the ap- pre- t of
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	the
9 the Mississippi River is a geographic region, and	ine
10 area of the United States west of the Mississi	ppi
11 River is a geographic region.	
12 (5) TERMS.—	
13 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term of a member	r of
14 the Commission shall be 3 years. No member	r of
15 the Commission shall serve more than 2 ter	ms.
16 (B) MIDTERM VACANCIES.—A member	of
17 the Commission appointed to fill a vacancy	in
18 the Commission occurring before the expirat	tion
19 of the term for which the member's predeces	ssor
20 was appointed shall be appointed for the rema	ıin-
21 <i>der of that unexpired term.</i>	
22 (C) CONTINUATION PENDING REPLA	CE-
23 MENT.—A member of the Commission may se	erve
24 after the expiration of that member's term u	ntil
25 a successor has taken office.	

1	(6) Removal.—A member of the Commission
2	may be removed by the President only for cause.
3	(c) Executive Director.—
4	(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall employ
5	an Executive Director to perform the administrative
6	functions of the Commission under this Act, and such
7	other functions and duties of the Commission as the
8	Commission shall specify.
9	(2) DISCHARGE OF FUNCTIONS.—Subject to the
10	authority, direction, and control of the Commission
11	the Executive Director shall carry out the functions
12	and duties of the Commission under this Act.
13	(d) GENERAL COUNSEL.—The Commission shall em-
14	ploy a General Counsel to provide legal counsel and advice
15	to the Executive Director and the Commission in the per-
16	formance of its functions under this Act, and to carry out
17	such other functions and duties as the Commission shall
18	specify.
19	(e) STAFF.—The Commission shall employ such addi-

tional staff as the Commission considers appropriate to assist the Executive Director and the General Counsel in carrying out the functions and duties of the Commission under
this Act.

24 (f) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall hold its first
25 meeting no later than 30 days after all members shall have

been appointed, and shall meet thereafter not less frequently
 than once every 60 days.

- 3 (g) COMPENSATION.—
- 4 (1) Members of commission.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each member of the 5 6 Commission shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of 7 8 basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive 9 Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) 10 11 during which such member is engaged in the per-12 formance of the duties of the Commission.

13 (B) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—The members of 14 the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, 15 including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at 16 rates authorized for employees of agencies under 17 subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United 18 States Code, while away from their homes or reg-19 ular places of business in the performance of 20 services for the Commission.

(2) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF.—The
Commission shall fix the compensation of the Executive Director, the General Counsel, and other personnel of the Commission. The rate of pay for the Executive Director, the General Counsel, and other per-

10
sonnel may not exceed the rate payable for level V of
the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5,
United States Code.
SEC. 4. FUNCTIONS.
(a) GENERAL FUNCTIONS.—The general functions of
the Commission are—
(1) to protect the general interests of boxers con-
sistent with the provisions of this Act;
(2) to ensure uniformity, fairness, and integrity
in professional boxing; and
(3) except as otherwise determined by the Com-
mission, oversee all professional boxing matches in the
United States.
(b) INITIAL RULEMAKING.—Not later than 180 days
after the date on which the Commission shall hold its first
meeting, the Commission shall, by rule promulgate uniform
standards for professional boxing in consultation with the
Association of Boxing Commissions.
(c) ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS.—In addition to its gen-
eral functions under subsection (a), the Commission shall—
(1) work with the boxing commissions of the sev-
eral States and tribal organizations to improve the
status and standards of professional boxing in the
United States;

1	(2) ensure, in cooperation with the Attorney
2	General (who shall represent the Commission in any
3	judicial proceeding under this Act), the chief law en-
4	forcement officer of the several States, and other ap-
5	propriate officers and agencies of Federal, State, and
6	local government, that Federal and State laws appli-
7	cable to professional boxing matches in the United
8	States are vigorously, effectively, and fairly enforced;
9	(3) review State boxing commission regulations
10	for professional boxing and provide assistance to such
11	authorities in meeting minimum standards prescribed
12	by the Commission under this Act;
13	(4) if the Commission determines appropriate,
14	publish a newspaper, magazine, or other publication
15	and establish and maintain an Internet website con-
16	sistent with the provisions of this Act; and
17	(5) promulgate rules, regulations, and guidance,
18	and take any other action necessary and proper to ac-
19	complish the purposes of, and consistent with, the
20	provisions of this Act.
21	(d) Prohibitions.—The Commission may not—
22	(1) promote boxing events or rank professional
23	boxers; or
24	(2) provide technical assistance to, or authorize
25	the use of the name of the Commission by, boxing

1	commissions that do not comply with requirements of
2	the Commission.
3	SEC. 5. LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF BOXING PER-
4	SONNEL.
5	(a) LICENSING.—
6	(1) Requirement for license.—Beginning 1
7	year after the date of enactment of this Act, no person
8	may compete in a professional boxing match or serve
9	as a boxing manager, boxing promoter, matchmaker,
10	judge, referee, or sanctioning organization for a pro-
11	fessional boxing match except as provided in a license
12	granted to that person under this subsection.
13	(2) Application and term.—
14	(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall—
15	(i) establish application procedures,
16	forms, and fees for licenses granted under
17	this section;
18	(ii) establish and publish appropriate
19	standards for such licenses;
20	(iii) issue a license to any person who,
21	as determined by the Commission, meets the
22	standards established by the Commission
23	under this Act; and

13

1	(iv) begin issuing such licenses not
2	later than 270 days after the date on which
3	Commission holds its first meeting.
4	(B) DURATION.—A license issued under this
5	section shall be for a renewable—
6	(i) 4-year term for a boxer; and
7	(ii) 2-year term for any other person.
8	(C) PROCEDURE.—The Commission may
9	issue a license under this paragraph through
10	boxing commissions or in a manner determined
11	by the Commission.
12	(b) Licensing Fees.—
13	(1) AUTHORITY.—The Commission may pre-
14	scribe and charge reasonable fees for the licensing of
15	persons under this Act. The Commission may set,
16	charge, and adjust varying fees on the basis of classi-
17	fications of persons, functions, and events determined
18	appropriate by the Commission.
19	(2) LIMITATIONS.—In setting and charging fees
20	under paragraph (1), the Commission shall ensure
21	that, to the maximum extent practicable—
22	(A) club boxing is not adversely effected;
23	(B) sanctioning organizations and pro-
24	moters pay comparatively the largest portion of
25	the fees; and

1	(C) boxers pay as small a portion of the fees
2	as is possible.

3 SEC. 6. NATIONAL REGISTRY OF BOXING PERSONNEL.

4 The Commission shall establish and maintain (or au5 thorize a third party to establish and maintain) a unified
6 national computerized registry for the collection, storage,
7 and retrieval of such information as the Commission shall
8 prescribe by rule related to the performance of its duties.

9 SEC. 7. CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS.

10 The Commission shall consult with the Association of
11 Boxing Commissions—

12 (1) before prescribing any regulation or estab13 lishing any standard under the provisions of this Act;
14 and

15 (2) not less than once each year regarding mat16 ters relating to professional boxing.

17 SEC. 8. MISCONDUCT.

18 (a) SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF LICENSE OR
19 REGISTRATION.—

20 (1) AUTHORITY.—The Commission may, after
21 notice and opportunity for a hearing, suspend or re22 voke any license issued under this Act if the Commis23 sion—

1	(A) finds that the license holder has violated
2	any provision of this Act or a standard pre-
3	scribed under this Act;
4	(B) reasonably believes that a standard pre-
5	scribed by the Commission under this Act is not
6	being met, or that bribery, collusion, intentional
7	losing, racketeering, extortion, or the use of un-
8	lawful threats, coercion, or intimidation have oc-
9	curred in connection with a license; or
10	(C) finds that the suspension or revocation
11	is in the public interest.
12	(2) Period of suspension.—A suspension of a
13	license under this section shall be effective for a period
14	determined appropriate by the Commission.
15	(3) PERIOD OF REVOCATION.—In the case of a
16	revocation of the license of a boxer, the revocation
17	shall be for a period of not less than 1 year.
18	(b) Investigations and Injunctions.—
19	(1) AUTHORITY.—The Commission may—
20	(A) conduct any investigation that it con-
21	siders necessary to determine whether any person
22	has violated, or is about to violate, any provision
23	of this Act or any regulation prescribed under
24	this Act;

1	(B) require or permit any person to file
2	with it a statement in writing, under oath or
3	otherwise as the Commission shall determine, as
4	to all the facts and circumstances concerning the
5	matter to be investigated;
6	(C) in its discretion, publish information
7	concerning any violations; and
8	(D) investigate any facts, conditions, prac-
9	tices, or matters to aid in the enforcement of the
10	provisions of this Act, in the prescribing of regu-
11	lations under this Act, or in securing informa-
12	tion to serve as a basis for recommending legisla-
13	tion concerning the matters to which this Act re-
14	lates.
15	(2) Powers.—
16	(A) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of any
17	investigation under paragraph (1) or any other
18	proceeding under this Act—
19	(i) any officer designated by the Com-
20	mission may administer oaths and affirma-
21	tions, subpoena or otherwise compel the at-
22	tendance of witnesses, take evidence, and re-
23	quire the production of any books, papers,
24	correspondence, memoranda, or other

1	records the Commission considers relevant
2	or material to the inquiry; and
3	(ii) the provisions of sections 6002 and
4	6004 of title 18, United States Code, shall
5	apply.
6	(B) Witnesses and evidence.—The at-
7	tendance of witnesses and the production of any
8	documents under subparagraph (A) may be re-
9	quired from any place in the United States, in-
10	cluding Indian land, at any designated place of
11	hearing.
12	(3) Enforcement of subpoenas.—
13	(A) CIVIL ACTION.—In case of contumacy
14	by, or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to, any
15	person, the Commission may file an action in
16	any district court of the United States within
17	the jurisdiction of which an investigation or pro-
18	ceeding is carried out, or where that person re-
19	sides or carries on business, to enforce the at-
20	tendance and testimony of witnesses and the pro-
21	duction of books, papers, correspondence, memo-
22	randums, and other records. The court may issue
23	an order requiring the person to appear before
24	the Commission to produce records, if so ordered,

1	or to give testimony concerning the matter under
2	investigation or in question.
3	(B) FAILURE TO OBEY.—Any failure to
4	obey an order issued by a court under subpara-
5	graph (A) may be punished as contempt of that
6	court.
7	(C) PROCESS.—All process in any contempt
8	case under subparagraph (A) may be served in
9	the judicial district in which the person is an in-
10	habitant or in which the person may be found.
11	(4) EVIDENCE OF CRIMINAL MISCONDUCT.—No
12	person may be excused from attending and testifying
13	or from producing books, papers, contracts, agree-
14	ments, and other records and documents before the
15	Commission, in obedience to the subpoena of the Com-
16	mission, or in any cause or proceeding instituted by
17	the Commission, on the ground that the testimony or
18	evidence, documentary or otherwise, required of that
19	person may tend to incriminate the person or subject
20	the person to a penalty or forfeiture.
21	(5) Injunctive relief.—If the Commission or
22	the Executive Director determines that any person is
23	engaged or about to engage in any act or practice
24	that constitutes a violation of any provision of this
25	Act, or of any regulation prescribed under this Act,

1	the Commission or the Executive Director may bring
2	an action in the appropriate district court of the
3	United States, the United States District Court for
4	the District of Columbia, or the United States courts
5	of any territory or other place subject to the jurisdic-
6	tion of the United States, to enjoin the act or prac-
7	tice, and upon a proper showing, the court shall grant
8	without bond a permanent or temporary injunction
9	or restraining order.
10	(6) Mandamus.—Upon application of the Com-
11	mission, the district courts of the United States, the
12	United States District Court for the District of Co-
13	lumbia, and the United States courts of any territory
14	or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United
15	States, shall have jurisdiction to issue writs of man-
16	damus commanding any person to comply with the
17	provisions of this Act or any order of the Commission.
18	(c) Intervention in Civil Actions.—
19	(1) In general.—The Commission, on behalf of
20	the public interest, may intervene of right as provided
21	under rule 24(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Proce-
22	dure in any civil action relating to professional box-
23	ing filed in a district court of the United States.

24 (2) AMICUS FILING.—The Commission may file 25 a brief in any action filed in a court of the United States on behalf of the public interest in any case re lating to professional boxing.

3 (d) HEARINGS BY COMMISSION.—Hearings conducted
4 by the Commission under this Act shall be public and may
5 be held before any officer of the Commission. The Commis6 sion shall keep appropriate records of the hearings.

7 SEC. 9. NONINTERFERENCE WITH BOXING COMMISSIONS.

8 (a) NONINTERFERENCE.—Nothing in this Act pro-9 hibits any boxing commission from exercising any of its 10 powers, duties, or functions with respect to the regulation 11 or supervision of professional boxing or professional boxing 12 matches to the extent not inconsistent with the provisions 13 of this Act.

(b) MINIMUM STANDARDS.—Nothing in this Act prohibits any boxing commission from enforcing local standards or requirements that exceed the minimum standards
or requirements promulgated by the Commission under this
Act.

19 SEC. 10. ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER AGENCIES.

20 Any employee of any executive department, agency, 21 bureau, board, commission, office, independent establish-22 ment, or instrumentality may be detailed to the Commis-23 sion, upon the request of the Commission, on a reimbursable 24 or nonreimbursable basis, with the consent of the appro-25 priate authority having jurisdiction over the employee.

1	While so detailed, an employee shall continue to receive the
2	compensation provided pursuant to law for the employee's
3	regular position of employment and shall retain, without
4	interruption, the rights and privileges of that employment.
5	SEC. 11. STUDIES.
6	(a) Health and Safety Study.—
7	(1) Study.—The Commission shall conduct a
8	study on the health and safety aspects of boxing, in-
9	cluding an examination of—
10	(A) the risks or serious injury and the na-
11	ture of potential injuries, including risks par-
12	ticular to boxers of each sex;
13	(B) the long term effect of boxing on the
14	health of boxers;
15	(C) the availability of health insurance for
16	boxers;
17	(D) the extent to which differences in equip-
18	ment effect the risks of potential injury; and
19	(E) the effectiveness of safety standards and
20	regulations.
21	(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
22	date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall
23	submit a report on the study required by this section
24	to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
25	portation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy

1	and Commerce of the House of Representatives, in-
2	cluding recommendations to improve the health and
3	safety aspects of boxing.
4	(b) Study on the Definition of Promoter.—
5	(1) STUDY.—The United States Boxing Commis-
6	sion shall conduct a study on how the term "pro-
7	moter" should be defined for purposes of the United
8	States Boxing Commission Act.
9	(2) HEARINGS.—As part of that study, the Com-
10	mission shall hold hearings and solicit testimony at
11	those hearings from boxers, managers, promoters, pre-
12	mium, cable, and satellite program service providers,
13	hotels, casinos, resorts, and other commercial estab-
14	lishments that host or sponsor professional boxing
15	matches, and other interested parties with respect to
16	the definition of that term as it is used in the United
17	States Boxing Commission Act.
18	(3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
19	date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission
20	shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science,
21	and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee
22	on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representa-
23	tives a report on the study conducted under subsection
24	(a). The report shall—

1	(A) set forth a proposed definition of the
2	term "promoter" for purposes of the United
3	States Boxing Commission Act; and
4	(B) describe the findings, conclusions, and
5	rationale of the Commission for the proposed def-
6	inition, together with any recommendations of
7	the Commission, based on the study.

8 SEC. 12. REPORTS.

9 (a) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after 10 the date of enactment of this Act, and each year thereafter, 11 the Commission shall submit a report on its activities to 12 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 13 of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce 14 of the House of Representatives. The annual report shall 15 include—

16 (1) a detailed discussion of the activities of the
17 Commission for the year covered by the report;

18 (2) an overview of the licensing and enforcement
19 activities of the State and tribal organization boxing
20 commissions; and

21 (3) recommendations regarding additional per22 sons or entities within the sport of boxing over whom
23 to extend the licensing requirement established by this
24 Act.

(b) PUBLIC REPORT.—The Commission shall annually
 issue and publicize a report of the Commission on the
 progress made at Federal and State levels and on Indian
 lands in the reform of professional boxing, which shall in clude comments on issues of continuing concern to the Com mission.

7 SEC. 13. SUNSET PROVISION.

8 This Act shall cease to have effect 12 years after the9 date of enactment of this Act.

10 SEC. 14. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated for the Commission for each fiscal year such sums
as may be necessary for the Commission to perform its functions for that fiscal year.

(b) RECEIPTS CREDITED AS OFFSETTING COLLEC16 TIONS.—Notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United
17 States Code, any fee collected under this Act—

18 (1) shall be credited as offsetting collections to
19 the account that finances the activities and services
20 for which the fee is imposed;

(2) shall be available for expenditure only to pay
the costs of activities and services for which the fee is
imposed; and

24 (3) shall remain available until expended.

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the "United 3 States Boxing Commission Act".

4 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

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(4) INDIAN LANDS.—The term "Indian
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(5) JUDGE.—The term "judge" means
an official who scores a boxing match to
determine the winner.

25 (6) MANAGER.—The term "manager"
26 means a person other than a promoter
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who, under contract, agreement, or other
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control or administer, directly or indirectly, a boxing-related matter on behalf
of that boxer, including a person who is
a booking agent for a boxer.

7 (7) MATCHMAKER.—The term "matchmaker" means a person that proposes, se-8 lects, and arranges for boxers to partici-9 pate in a professional boxing match. Such 10 term does not include a hotel, casino, re-11 12 sort, or other commercial establishment hosting or sponsoring a professional box-13 ing match, or a provider of cable, sat-14 ellite, or network television program-15 ming, unless— 16

(A) the hotel, casino, resort, or 17 18 other commercial establishment, or provider of cable, satellite, or net-19 20 work television programming is pri-21 marily responsible for proposing, se-22 lecting, and arranging for boxers to participate in the professional boxing 23 match; and 24

1(B) there is no other person pri-2marily responsible for proposing, se-3lecting, and arranging for boxers to4participate in the match.

5 (8) REFEREE.—The term "referee"
6 means the official inside the boxing ring
7 who supervises the boxing match.

(9) PROFESSIONAL BOXING MATCH.—The 8 term "professional boxing match" means 9 a boxing contest held in the United 10 States between individuals for financial 11 compensation. Such term does not in-12 clude a boxing contest that is regulated 13 by a duly recognized amateur sports or-14 ganization, as approved by the Commis-15 sion. 16

17 (10) PROMOTER.—The term "pro 18 moter"—

19 (A) means the person primarily
20 responsible for organizing, pro21 moting, and producing a professional
22 boxing match; but

23 (B) does not include a hotel, ca24 sino, resort, or other commercial es25 tablishment hosting or sponsoring a

1	professional boxing match, or a pro-
2	vider of cable, satellite, or network
3	television programming, unless—
4	(i) the hotel, casino, resort, or
5	other commercial establishment,
6	or provider of cable, satellite, or
7	network television programming
8	is primarily responsible for orga-
9	nizing, promoting, and producing
10	the match; and
11	(ii) there is no other person
12	primarily responsible for orga-
13	nizing, promoting, and producing
14	the match.
15	(11) STATE.—The term "State" means
16	each of the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the
17	District of Columbia, and any territory or
18	possession of the United States, including
19	the Virgin Islands.
20	(12) SANCTIONING ORGANIZATION.—The
21	term "sanctioning organization" means
22	an organization, other than a boxing
23	commission, that sanctions professional
24	boxing matches, ranks professional box-
25	ers, or charges a sanctioning fee for pro-

1	fessional boxing matches in the United
2	States—
3	(A) between boxers who are resi-
4	dents of different States; or
5	(B) that are advertised, otherwise
6	promoted, or broadcast (including
7	closed circuit television) in interstate
8	commerce.
9	(13) SUSPENSION.—The term "suspen-
10	sion" includes within its meaning the
11	temporary revocation of a boxing license.
12	(14) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term
13	"tribal organization" has the same mean-
14	ing as in section 4(l) of the Indian Self-
15	Determination and Education Assistance
16	Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(l)).
17	SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITED STATES BOXING COM-
18	MISSION.
19	(a) IN GENERAL.—The United States Box-
20	ing Commission is established as a commis-
21	sion within the Department of Commerce.
22	(b) MEMBERS.—
23	(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission
24	shall consist of 3 members appointed by

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1	the President, by and with the advice and
2	consent of the Senate.
3	(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—No member of
4	the Commission may, while serving as a
5	member of the Commission—
6	(A) be engaged as a professional
7	boxer, boxing promoter, agent, fight
8	manager, matchmaker, referee, judge,
9	or in any other capacity in the con-
10	duct of the business of professional
11	boxing;
12	(B) have any pecuniary interest in
13	the earnings of any boxer or the pro-
14	ceeds or outcome of any boxing
15	match; or
16	(C) serve as a member of a boxing
17	commission.
18	(3) BIPARTISAN MEMBERSHIP. —Not
19	more than 2 members of the Commission
20	may be members of the same political
21	party.
22	(4) GEOGRAPHIC BALANCE.—Not more
23	than 2 members of the Commission may
24	be residents of the same geographic re-
25	gion of the United States when appointed

1	to the Commission. For purposes of the
2	preceding sentence, the area of the
3	United States east of the Mississippi
4	River is a geographic region, and the
5	area of the United States west of the Mis-
6	sissippi River is a geographic region.
7	(5) TERMS.—
8	(A) IN GENERAL.—The term of a
9	member of the Commission shall be 3
10	years. No member of the Commission
11	shall serve more than 2 terms.
12	(B) MIDTERM VACANCIES.—A mem-
13	ber of the Commission appointed to
14	fill a vacancy in the Commission oc-
15	curring before the expiration of the
16	term for which the member's prede-
17	cessor was appointed shall be ap-
18	pointed for the remainder of that un-
19	expired term.
20	(C) CONTINUATION PENDING RE-
21	PLACEMENT.—A member of the Com-
22	mission may serve after the expira-
23	tion of that member's term until a
24	successor has taken office.

(6) REMOVAL.—A member of the Com mission may be removed by the President
 only for cause.

4 (c) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission 6 shall employ an Executive Director to 7 perform the administrative functions of 8 the Commission under this Act, and such 9 other functions and duties of the Com-10 mission as the Commission shall specify.

(2) DISCHARGE OF FUNCTIONS.—Subject
to the authority, direction, and control of
the Commission the Executive Director
shall carry out the functions and duties
of the Commission under this Act.

16 (d) GENERAL COUNSEL.—The Commission 17 shall employ a General Counsel to provide 18 legal counsel and advice to the Executive Di-19 rector and the Commission in the perform-20 ance of its functions under this Act, and to 21 carry out such other functions and duties as 22 the Commission shall specify.

(e) STAFF.—The Commission shall employ
such additional staff as the Commission considers appropriate to assist the Executive Di-

rector and the General Counsel in carrying
 out the functions and duties of the Commis sion under this Act.

4 (f) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall hold 5 its first meeting no later than 30 days after all 6 members shall have been appointed, and shall 7 meet thereafter not less frequently than once 8 every 60 days.

9 (g) COMPENSATION.—

- 10 (1) MEMBERS OF COMMISSION.—
- 11 (A) IN GENERAL.—Each member of 12 the Commission shall be compensated 13 at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay pre-14 scribed for level IV of the Executive 15 Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, 16 17 United States Code, for each day (in-18 cluding travel time) during which 19 such member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Commis-20 21 sion.

(B) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—The members of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per
diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates

authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of 2 title 5, United States Code, while 3 away from their homes or regular 4 places of business in the performance of services for the Commission. 6

7 (2) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF.— The Commission shall fix the compensa-8 tion of the Executive Director, the Gen-9 10 eral Counsel, and other personnel of the Commission. The rate of pay for the Exec-11 utive Director, the General Counsel, and 12 other personnel may not exceed the rate 13 payable for level V of the Executive 14 Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, 15 **United States Code.** 16

17 SEC. 4. FUNCTIONS.

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18 (a) GENERAL **FUNCTIONS.**—The general functions of the Commission are— 19

20 (1) to protect the general interests of 21 boxers consistent with the provisions of 22 this Act:

(2) to ensure uniformity, fairness, and 23 integrity in professional boxing; and 24

(3) except as otherwise determined by
 the Commission, oversee all professional
 boxing matches in the United States.

(b) INITIAL RULEMAKING.—Not later than 4 5 180 days after the date on which the Commission shall hold its first meeting, the Commis-6 7 sion shall, by rule promulgate uniform standards for professional boxing in consultation 8 with the Association of Boxing Commissions. 9 (c) ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS.—In addition to 10 its general functions under subsection (a), the 11 **Commission shall** 12

(1) work with the boxing commissions
of the several States and tribal organizations to improve the status and standards
of professional boxing in the United
States;

18 (2) ensure, in cooperation with the 19 Attorney General, or a designee of the At-20 torney General, (who shall represent the Commission in any judicial proceeding 21 22 under this Act), the chief law enforcement officer of the several States, and 23 other appropriate officers and agencies 24 of Federal, State, and local government, 25

that Federal and State laws applicable to
 professional boxing matches in the
 United States are vigorously, effectively,
 and fairly enforced;

5 (3) review State boxing commission 6 regulations for professional boxing and 7 provide assistance to such authorities in 8 meeting minimum standards prescribed 9 by the Commission under this Act;

(4) if the Commission determines appropriate, publish a newspaper, magazine, or other publication and establish
and maintain an Internet website consistent with the provisions of this Act;
and

(5) promulgate rules, regulations, and
guidance, and take any other action necessary and proper to accomplish the purposes of, and consistent with, the provisions of this Act.

21 (d) **PROHIBITIONS.**—The Commission may 22 not—

23 (1) promote boxing events or rank
24 professional boxers; or

1	(2) provide technical assistance to, or
2	authorize the use of the name of the Com-
3	mission by, boxing commissions that do
4	not comply with requirements of the
5	Commission.
6	SEC. 5. LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF BOXING PER-
7	SONNEL.
8	(a) LICENSING.—
9	(1) REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSE.—Begin-
10	ning 1 year after the date of enactment of
11	this Act, no person may compete in a pro-
12	fessional boxing match or serve as a box-
13	ing manager, boxing promoter, match-
14	maker, judge, referee, or sanctioning or-
15	ganization for a professional boxing
16	match except as provided in a license
17	granted to that person under this sub-
18	section.
19	(2) Application and term.—
20	(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission
21	shall—
22	(i) establish application proce-
23	dures, forms, and fees for licenses
24	granted under this section;

1	(ii) establish and publish ap-
2	propriate standards for such li-
3	censes;
4	(iii) issue a license to any per-
5	son who, as determined by the
6	Commission, meets the standards
7	established by the Commission
8	under this Act; and
9	(iv) begin issuing such li-
10	censes not later than 270 days
11	after the date on which Commis-
12	sion holds its first meeting.
13	(B) DURATION.—A license issued
14	under this section shall be for a re-
15	newable—
16	(i) 4-year term for a boxer;
17	and
18	(ii) 2-year term for any other
19	person.
20	(C) PROCEDURE.—The Commission
21	may issue a license under this para-
22	graph through boxing commissions or
23	in a manner determined by the Com-
24	mission.
25	(b) LICENSING FEES.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—The Commission may 1 prescribe and charge reasonable fees for 2 the licensing of persons under this Act. 3 The Commission may set, charge, and ad-4 just varying fees on the basis of classi-5 6 fications of persons, functions. and events determined appropriate by the 7 **Commission.** 8 **(2)** LIMITATIONS.—In setting 9 and charging fees under paragraph (1), the 10 Commission shall ensure that, to the 11 12 maximum extent practicable— (A) club boxing is not adversely 13 effected: 14 (B) sanctioning organizations and 15 promoters pay comparatively 16 the 17 largest portion of the fees; and 18 (C) boxers pay as small a portion 19 of the fees as is possible.

20 SEC. 6. NATIONAL REGISTRY OF BOXING PERSONNEL.

The Commission shall establish and maintain (or authorize a third party to establish and maintain) a unified national computerized registry for the collection, storage, and retrieval of such information as the Commis-

1 sion shall prescribe by rule related to the performance of its duties. 2 SEC. 7. CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS. 3 4 The Commission shall consult with the As-5 sociation of Boxing Commissions— 6 (1) before prescribing any regulation or establishing any standard under the 7 provisions of this Act; and 8 (2) not less than once each year re-9 10 garding matters relating to professional boxing. 11 12 SEC. 8. MISCONDUCT. 13 (a) SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF LI-CENSE OR REGISTRATION.— 14 (1) AUTHORITY.—The Commission may, 15 after notice and opportunity for a hear-16 17 ing, suspend or revoke any license issued 18 under this Act if the Commission— 19 (A) finds that the license holder has violated any provision of this Act 20 or a standard prescribed under this 21 22 Act: (B) reasonably believes that a 23 24 standard prescribed by the Commission under this Act is not being met, 25

1	or that bribery, collusion, intentional
2	losing, racketeering, extortion, or the
3	use of unlawful threats, coercion, or
4	intimidation have occurred in con-
5	nection with a license; or
6	(C) finds that the suspension or
7	revocation is in the public interest.
8	(2) PERIOD OF SUSPENSION.—A suspen-
9	sion of a license under this section shall
10	be effective for a period determined ap-
11	propriate by the Commission.
12	(3) PERIOD OF REVOCATION.—In the
13	case of a revocation of the license of a
14	boxer, the revocation shall be for a pe-
15	riod of not less than 1 year.
16	(b) INVESTIGATIONS AND INJUNCTIONS.—
17	(1) AUTHORITY.—The Commission
18	may—
19	(A) conduct any investigation that
20	it considers necessary to determine
21	whether any person has violated, or
22	is about to violate, any provision of
23	this Act or any regulation prescribed
24	under this Act;

- (B) require or permit any person 1 to file with it a statement in writing, 2 under oath or otherwise as the Com-3 mission shall determine, as to all the 4 facts and circumstances concerning 5 the matter to be investigated: 6 (C) in its discretion, publish infor-7 mation concerning any violations; 8 and 9 10 (D) investigate any facts, condi-11 tions, practices, or matters to aid in the enforcement of the provisions of 12 this Act, in the prescribing of regula-13 tions under this Act, or in securing 14 information to serve as a basis for 15 recommending legislation concerning 16 17 the matters to which this Act relates. 18 (2) **POWERS.**— (A) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose 19 of any investigation under paragraph 20
 - (1) or any other proceeding under this Act—

23 (i) any officer designated by
24 the Commission may administer
25 oaths and affirmations, subpoena

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1	or otherwise compel the attend-
2	ance of witnesses, take evidence,
3	and require the production of any
4	books, papers, correspondence,
5	memoranda, or other records the
6	Commission considers relevant or
7	material to the inquiry; and
8	(ii) the provisions of sections
9	6002 and 6004 of title 18, United
10	States Code, shall apply.
11	(B) WITNESSES AND EVIDENCE.—The
12	attendance of witnesses and the pro-
13	duction of any documents under sub-
14	paragraph (A) may be required from
15	any place in the United States, in-
16	cluding Indian land, at any des-
17	ignated place of hearing.
18	(3) ENFORCEMENT OF SUBPOENAS.—
19	(A) CIVIL ACTION.—In case of con-
20	tumacy by, or refusal to obey a sub-
21	poena issued to, any person, the Com-
22	mission may file an action in any dis-
23	trict court of the United States within
24	the jurisdiction of which an inves-
25	tigation or proceeding is carried out,

or where that person resides or car-1 ries on business, to enforce the at-2 tendance and testimony of witnesses 3 and the production of books, papers, 4 correspondence, memorandums, and 5 other records. The court may issue an 6 order requiring the person to appear 7 before the Commission to produce 8 records, if so ordered, or to give testi-9 mony concerning the matter under 10 11 investigation or in question.

(B) FAILURE TO OBEY.—Any failure
to obey an order issued by a court
under subparagraph (A) may be punished as contempt of that court.

16 (C) PROCESS.—All process in any
17 contempt case under subparagraph
18 (A) may be served in the judicial dis19 trict in which the person is an inhab20 itant or in which the person may be
21 found.

(D) ADMINISTRATIVE SUBPOENAS.—
The requirements of section 3486 of
title 18, United States Code, shall
apply to the administration and en-

forcement of subpoenas under this
 Act.

3 (4) **EVIDENCE** OF CRIMINAL MIS-CONDUCT.—No person may be excused 4 from attending and testifying or from 5 books. 6 producing papers, contracts. 7 agreements, and other records and documents before the Commission, in obedi-8 ence to the subpoena of the Commission, 9 or in any cause or proceeding instituted 10 by the Commission, on the ground that 11 the testimony or evidence, documentary 12 or otherwise, required of that person may 13 tend to incriminate the person or subject 14 the person to a penalty or forfeiture. 15

(5) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—If the Com-16 17 mission determines that any person is en-18 gaged or about to engage in any act or 19 practice that constitutes a violation of 20 any provision of this Act, or of any regulation prescribed under this Act, the 21 22 Commission may bring an action in the appropriate district court of the United 23 States, the United States District Court 24 for the District of Columbia, or the 25

United States courts of any territory or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, to enjoin the act or practice, and upon a proper showing, the court shall grant without bond a permanent or temporary injunction or restraining order.

(6) MANDAMUS.—Upon application of 8 the Commission, the district courts of the 9 United States, the United States District 10 Court for the District of Columbia, and 11 12 the United States courts of any territory or other place subject to the jurisdiction 13 of the United States, shall have jurisdic-14 tion to issue writs of mandamus com-15 manding any person to comply with the 16 17 provisions of this Act or any order of the 18 **Commission**.

19 (c) INTERVENTION IN CIVIL ACTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission, on
behalf of the public interest, may intervene of right as provided under rule 24(a)
of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in
any civil action relating to professional

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boxing filed in a district court of the
 United States.

3 (2) AMICUS FILING.—The Commission 4 may file a brief in any action filed in a 5 court of the United States on behalf of 6 the public interest in any case relating to 7 professional boxing.

8 (d) HEARINGS BY COMMISSION.—Hearings 9 conducted by the Commission under this Act 10 shall be public and may be held before any of-11 ficer of the Commission. The Commission 12 shall keep appropriate records of the hear-13 ings.

14 SEC. 9. NONINTERFERENCE WITH BOXING COMMISSIONS.

(a) NONINTERFERENCE.—Nothing in this
Act prohibits any boxing commission from exercising any of its powers, duties, or functions
with respect to the regulation or supervision
of professional boxing or professional boxing
matches to the extent not inconsistent with
the provisions of this Act.

(b) MINIMUM STANDARDS.—Nothing in this
Act prohibits any boxing commission from enforcing local standards or requirements that
exceed the minimum standards or require-

ments promulgated by the Commission under
 this Act.

3 SEC. 10. ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER AGENCIES.

Any employee of any executive depart-4 ment, agency, bureau, board, commission, of-5 fice, independent establishment, or instru-6 7 mentality may be detailed to the Commission. upon the request of the Commission, on a re-8 imbursable or nonreimbursable basis, with 9 10 the consent of the appropriate authority having jurisdiction over the employee. While so 11 12 detailed, an employee shall continue to re-13 ceive the compensation provided pursuant to 14 law for the employee's regular position of em-15 ployment and shall retain, without interrup-16 tion, the rights and privileges of that employ-17 ment.

18 **SEC. 11. STUDIES.**

19 (a) HEALTH AND SAFETY STUDY.—

(1) STUDY.—The Commission shall
conduct a study on the health and safety
aspects of boxing, including an examination of—

24 (A) the risks or serious injury and
25 the nature of potential injuries, in-

1	cluding risks particular to boxers of
2	each sex;
3	(B) the long term effect of boxing
4	on the health of boxers;
5	(C) the availability of health in-
6	surance for boxers;
7	(D) the extent to which dif-
8	ferences in equipment effect the risks
9	of potential injury; and
10	(E) the effectiveness of safety
11	standards and regulations.
12	(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year
13	after the date of enactment of this Act,
14	the Commission shall submit a report on
15	the study required by this section to the
16	Committee on Commerce, Science, and
17	Transportation of the Senate and the
18	Committee on Energy and Commerce of
19	the House of Representatives, including
20	recommendations to improve the health
21	and safety aspects of boxing.
22	(b) STUDY ON THE DEFINITION OF PRO-
23	MOTER.—
24	(1) STUDY.—The United States Boxing
25	Commission shall conduct a study on how

the term "promoter" should be defined
 for purposes of the United States Boxing
 Commission Act.

(2) HEARINGS.—As part of that study, 4 5 the Commission shall hold hearings and solicit testimony at those hearings from 6 boxers, managers, promoters, premium, 7 8 cable, and satellite program service providers, hotels, casinos, resorts, and other 9 commercial establishments that host or 10 sponsor professional boxing matches, and 11 12 other interested parties with respect to the definition of that term as it is used in 13 the United States Boxing Commission 14 Act. 15

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year 16 17 after the date of the enactment of this 18 Act, the Commission shall submit to the 19 Committee on Commerce, Science, and 20 Transportation of the Senate and the 21 **Committee on Energy and Commerce of** 22 the House of Representatives a report on the study conducted under subsection (a). 23 The report shall— 24

1(A) set forth a proposed definition2of the term "promoter" for purposes3of the United States Boxing Commis-4sion Act; and

5 (B) describe the findings, conclu-6 sions, and rationale of the Commis-7 sion for the proposed definition, to-8 gether with any recommendations of 9 the Commission, based on the study.

10 SEC. 12. REPORTS.

11 (a) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 12 years after the date of enactment of this Act, 13 and each year thereafter, the Commission 14 shall submit a report on its activities to the 15 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-16 portation of the Senate and the Committee on 17 Energy and Commerce of the House of Rep-18 resentatives. The annual report shall in-19 clude—

20 (1) a detailed discussion of the activi21 ties of the Commission for the year cov22 ered by the report;

23 (2) an overview of the licensing and
24 enforcement activities of the State and

3 (3) recommendations regarding addi4 tional persons or entities within the sport
5 of boxing over whom to extend the licens6 ing requirement established by this Act.

7 (b) PUBLIC REPORT.—The Commission 8 shall annually issue and publicize a report of 9 the Commission on the progress made at Fed-10 eral and State levels and on Indian lands in 11 the reform of professional boxing, which shall 12 include comments on issues of continuing 13 concern to the Commission.

14 SEC. 13. SUNSET PROVISION.

15 **This Act shall cease to have effect 12 years** 16 **after the date of enactment of this Act.**

17 SEC. 14. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to
be appropriated for the Commission for each
fiscal year such sums as may be necessary for
the Commission to perform its functions for
that fiscal year.

23 (b) RECEIPTS CREDITED AS OFFSETTING COL24 LECTIONS.—Notwithstanding section 3302 of

title 31, United States Code, any fee collected
 under this Act—

3 (1) shall be credited as offsetting col4 lections to the account that finances the
5 activities and services for which the fee
6 is imposed;

7 (2) shall be available for expenditure
8 only to pay the costs of activities and
9 services for which the fee is imposed; and
10 (3) shall remain available until ex11 pended.

Union Calendar No. 134

109TH CONGRESS H. R. 1065

[Report No. 109-209, Parts I and II]

A BILL

To establish the United States Boxing Commission to protect the general welfare of boxers and to ensure fairness in the sport of professional boxing.

September 30, 2005

Committee on Education and the Workforce discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed