

Martial Arts Control Bill

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Outline

The purpose of the Bill is to provide a basis for the attainment of standards of safety for persons involved in the martial arts and to control professional and amateur (full contact) contests in the interests of all persons involved.

Notes on Clauses

Clause 1 outlines the purposes of the Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the Act.

Clause 3 defines the various terms within the Act.

Clause 4 requires promoters, managers, referees and judges involved in the conduct of professional and amateur (full contact) contests and martial art instructors to be licensed.

Clause 5 requires a promoter conducting professional and amateur (full contact) contests to obtain a permit.

Clause 6 provides for the conditions under which a licence or permit is granted by the Minister and the powers of the Minister to suspend or cancel a licence or permit.

Clause 7 provides for the cancellation, by the Minister, of a person's licence or permit, if that person has contravened a corresponding law in another State or Territory of the Commonwealth or has done or not done something in that State or Territory which would be a contravention of this Act, the regulations or a condition of the licence or permit.

Clause 8 requires the registration and renewal of registration of contestants in professional or amateur (full contact) contests.

Applications must be accompanied by a certificate of fitness signed by an accredited medical officer. The Minister may refuse the re-registration and the annual renewal of registration for contestants under certain conditions. The Minister may also suspend or cancel the registration of a contestant.

Clause 9 provides for the appointment of accredited medical officers involved in the medical examination of contestants.

Clause 10 outlines the procedures for the medical examination of contestants prior to a professional or amateur (full contact) contest and the Minister's power to suspend or cancel a contestant's registration if the contestant engages in a contest for which the contestant is unfit.

Clause 11 establishes a Martial Arts Board, stipulates its membership, and outlines its functions and responsibilities to the Minister.

Clause 12 allows for the delegation of powers by the Minister to any person or body.

Clause 13 provides for the review of a decision of the Minister by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

Clause 14 provides for proceeding to be taken for an offence against the Act or regulations.

Clause 15 provides that a certificate signed by the Minister or authorized person may be used in evidence in proceedings against the Act or regulations and, if there is an absence of evidence to the contrary, is proof of the facts stated.

Clause 16 states that the production of a copy of a document under this Act or regulation is evidence.

Clause 17 provides power for the Governor in Council to make regulations under the Act.

Clause 18 provides that the Act shall cease to have effect on 1 September 1989.