

## Chapter 125

**(House Bill 236)**

AN ACT concerning

**State Athletic Commission – Blood Testing of Contestants – Timing**

FOR the purpose of extending the period of time before applying for a license to participate in a boxing, kick boxing, wrestling, or mixed martial arts contest and before participating in the contest during which certain blood testing may be conducted for purposes of submission of the results to the State Athletic Commission; and generally relating to the State Athletic Commission and required blood testing of contestants.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – Business Regulation  
Section 4–101(a) and (c) through (e)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Business Regulation  
Section 4–304.1(a) and (b)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Business Regulation**

4–101.

- (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (c) “Commission” means the State Athletic Commission.
- (d) (1) “Contest” means a boxing, kick boxing, or wrestling:
  - (i) competition;
  - (ii) exhibition;
  - (iii) match;
  - (iv) performance; or

- (v) show.
- (2) “Contest” includes a mixed martial arts:
  - (i) competition;
  - (ii) match;
  - (iii) performance; or
  - (iv) show.
- (3) “Contest” does not include a mixed martial arts exhibition.

(e) “Contestant” means an individual who participates in a boxing, professional kick boxing, amateur kick boxing, professional mixed martial arts, or amateur mixed martial arts contest.

4–304.1.

(a) Each applicant for a license to participate as a contestant in a contest shall present documentary evidence, satisfactory to the Commission, that:

(1) within the prior ~~[30–day]~~ **90–DAY** period, the applicant has been tested for the presence of:

- (i) antibodies to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV);
  - (ii) the antigen of virus hepatitis B; and
  - (iii) antibodies to virus hepatitis C; and
- (2) the results of all tests are negative.

(b) Whenever directed by the Commission, an individual who is licensed to participate as a contestant in a contest shall present documentary evidence, satisfactory to the Commission, that:

(1) within ~~[30]~~ **90** days prior to participating in a contest, the individual has been tested for the presence of:

- (i) antibodies to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV);
- (ii) the antigen of virus hepatitis B; and

- (iii) antibodies to virus hepatitis C; and
- (2) the results of all tests are negative.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2026.

**Approved by the Governor, April 14, 2026.**