

**CHAPTER 44****(HB 224)**

AN ACT relating to the Kentucky Sports Authority.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔Section 1. KRS 148.590 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) There is created the Kentucky Sports Authority, which shall be attached to the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, Office of the Secretary, for administrative purposes.
- (2) The authority shall consist of fifteen (15) members, including the Lieutenant Governor, the secretary of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, the secretary of the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet, and twelve (12) members appointed by the Governor. The members appointed by the Governor shall include representatives of the Kentucky Racing Authority, the fish and wildlife community, and the Kentucky Boxing and Wrestling Authority.
- (3) The Lieutenant Governor shall serve as chairperson of the authority. Members shall elect other officers as they deem necessary. Of the members initially appointed by the Governor, one-third (1/3) shall serve a term of four (4) years, one-third (1/3) shall serve a term of three (3) years, and one-third (1/3) shall serve a term of two (2) years. All succeeding terms shall be for four (4) years.
- (4) The secretary of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet shall appoint an executive director, with the prior written approval of the Governor, to head the authority. The cabinet shall provide additional administrative support to the authority from the cabinet's existing staff as necessary.
- (5) The authority shall meet *no less than biannually*~~[monthly]~~ and at other times as necessary, upon the call of the chairperson. Members shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in performing the authority's duties, functions, and responsibilities.
- (6) The authority's primary responsibility shall be to recruit, promote, assist, place, and develop sporting events, facilities, attractions, and programs in the Commonwealth, with the ultimate goal of developing commerce, the economy, job opportunities, and revenue streams. The authority's duties shall include but not be limited to the following:
  - (a) Lead efforts to attract national and regional sporting events to Kentucky by working with *national, regional, and local sporting organizations*~~[the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, the Professional Golf Association, the National Football League, the National Basketball Association, the Professional Bowlers Association, the Professional Tennis Tour, the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing, the United States Olympic Committee, Bassmasters, and other nationally recognized organizations];~~
  - (b) Work *with communities to recruit professional franchises*~~[toward establishing professional franchises in Kentucky,]~~ and develop an overall strategic plan to recruit and retain all forms of professional and amateur sporting events *to Kentucky*~~[, including boxing, motor vehicle racing, baseball, football, soccer, hockey, tennis, gymnastics, volleyball, and figure skating];~~
  - (c) *Collaborate with communities to* identify and propose improvements for sporting activity infrastructure, including opportunities for private and public partnership on infrastructure development; present for the Governor's approval any financial plan that would require state tax dollars to build new athletic facilities; and upon the Governor's approval of a proposed financial plan, present it to the General Assembly;
  - (d) Foster relationships between sporting event organizers and event sponsors, and between and among state agencies, and provide advice and direction for increasing the number and quality of sporting events;
  - (e) Evaluate various sports and sports-related activities and entities~~[, such as auto racing, summer instructional camps for cheerleading, and sports agents,]~~ and make written recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly *if*~~[as to whether]~~ additional regulation, licensing, or taxing are necessary;

- (f) ***Collaborate with communities and Kentucky athletes to develop programs to promote youth wellness and awareness of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle; and***~~[Attempt to involve renowned Kentucky athletes in the war against drugs and the promotion of the Governor's Wellness Initiative;]~~
- (g)~~[~~ Work with Kentucky Educational Television and other media outlets to establish and develop a twenty-four (24) hour television channel devoted to promoting and highlighting healthy lifestyles, sports, and applicable government programs, such as the state park system and the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources;
  - (h)~~]~~ Develop and recommend to the Governor, as necessary, legislation and administrative regulations to further the purposes of the authority, ***including but not limited to the recruitment and maintenance of professional and amateur sporting events, the facilitation of sporting participation by Kentucky's citizens, the safe and ethical operation of sporting events, and the fiscal impact of sporting events in the Commonwealth***~~[provide additional professional and amateur participation by Kentucky's citizens, provide adequate safety measures and ethical operations for sporting events, recruit and maintain professional and amateur sporting events, and address the fiscal and tax implications of the issues and activities of this section; and~~
  - (i)~~]~~ Assume all duties, functions, responsibilities, records, equipment, and staff of the Governor's Commission on Sports, Physical Activity, and Wellness established under KRS 11.190, and establish a council titled the Council on Sports, Physical Activity, and Wellness to implement these transferred statutory responsibilities].

Signed by Governor March 30, 2010.