SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES REGARDING THE ARKANSAS STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND LICENSING

May 19, 2022

The purpose and necessity of the proposed amendment is to comply with changes from the 2019 and 2021 legislative sessions. Additionally, the commission’s current rules contain duplicative language, as well as rules on professional wrestling, which are no longer valid due to Act 923 of 2019. The repeal of the professional wrestling rules and the elimination of duplicative language through reorganization will reduce the commission’s rules from 204 pages to 64 pages making the rules more accessible and easier to use.

The proposed amendments would accomplish the following:

1. Amend the board’s rule on license and examination fees to provide for an initial fee waiver for certain individuals pursuant to Act 725 of 2021;

2. Rule 1.14 regarding uniformed service members and spouses is amended to comply with Act 135 of 2021. It provides for an expedited licensure process due to the blood work requirement.

3. Amend the board’s rules to comply with Act 748 of 2021 regarding pre-licensure criminal background checks and waiver requests;

4. Amend the board’s rules to comply with current accounting responsibilities and practices;

5. Amend the board’s rules to comply with the Arkansas Administrative Procedures Act, Arkansas Code §§ 25-15-208 – 211;

6. Amend the definition of “Act”;

7. Raise the surety bond requirement from $5,000 to $20,000; and

8. Repeal the rules on professional wrestling.

9. Make grammatical and stylistic changes as a result of government transformation.