

October 17, 2025

The Honorable Tim Walberg  
Chairman  
Committee on Education and Workforce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Education and Workforce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Walberg and Ranking Member Scott:

We write to express our strong support for H.R. 4624, otherwise known as the *Muhammad Ali American Boxing Revival Act*.

For nearly 100 years, boxing was one of the most popular sports in America, consistently selling out arenas and stadiums around the country. For decades, millions of fans in cities like Atlanta, Chicago, Houston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and New York would flock to local venues to see their boxing heroes-- American legends of the sport like Muhammad Ali, Joe Louis, Jack Dempsey, Mike Tyson, Sugar Ray Leonard, and Floyd Mayweather, Jr.,

However, in the past twenty years, the number of marquee boxing events held at venues in the United States has slowly declined, with many of boxing's premier fights now taking place overseas.

As just one example, since 2015, thirty of the most notable heavyweight title matches have taken place outside of the U.S., compared to just seven such matches in the U.S.

As these boxing matches have migrated out of the U.S., they have also taken away the economic benefits that such popular, sold-out spectacles deliver to the host community.

Each moderate to large-scale boxing event represents a local economic engine for our venues. Local workers are employed in event operations, hospitality, security, and across many other functions. In addition, neighboring businesses outside of our buildings, such as restaurants, bars, and hotels, all see a spike in revenue due to the increase in consumer spending from local fans and out-of-town visitors.

To use the closest analogue to boxing in combat sports, major UFC events routinely generate tens of millions of dollars for the communities that host them. To cite just a few examples: **UFC 302** at Prudential Center in 2024 generated \$26.8 million in economic impact for the Newark metropolitan area; **UFC 292** held at TD Garden in Boston in 2023 generated \$41.million in economic output for the surrounding region; and **UFC 287** held at Miami's Kaseya Center earlier the same year generated \$47.7 million in economic impact for Miami and nearby areas. *(All research conducted and verified by analytics firm Applied Analysis.)*

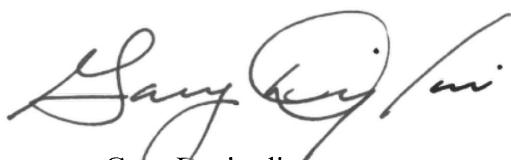
By bringing more boxing cards to venues nationwide, communities around the country can share in these economic benefits.

The *Muhammad Ali American Boxing Revival Act* would add to the available inventory of professional boxing matches in the United States by encouraging and incentivizing new promotions to produce such events. As you know, this legislation will not replace the current professional boxing structure involving sanctioning organizations. Instead, this bill allows for the creation of a separate, parallel system that would produce more boxing events. These additional events would complement any boxing cards hosted in our venues that take place under the auspices of the sanctioning bodies system.

Ultimately, as venue operators, our goal is to deliver world-class productions and unmatched fan experiences, while generating measurable positive economic impact in communities. As such, we support this effort to expand and enhance the professional boxing landscape through the *Muhammad Ali American Boxing Revival Act*.

We respectfully urge Congress to enact H.R. 4624, which would encourage, incentivize, and expand the scheduling of professional boxing events in the U.S. while also reviving American interest in this storied and celebrated sport.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Desjardins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Gary Desjardins  
Sr. Vice President, General Manager