

December 3, 2025

Dear Members of Congress,

The “Muhammad Ali American Boxing Revival Act” was recently introduced in Congress by Republican Brian Jack out of Georgia. This Act, under the guise of “choice,” strips away all of the protections the Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act provided to boxers and which decades of struggle and litigation helped secure. We vigorously oppose this bill which, if passed, will lead to decades more of fighter exploitation to enrich billionaires. Rhetoric suggesting this bill offers "choice" and "does nothing to change" the Ali Act is nonsensical. It provides an exemption from all the pro-competitive aspects of the Ali Act and was written by and for a single company, TKO. This is akin to a company seeking an exemption from the NLRA under the guise of "choice."

Another nonsensical argument in support of this bill is the \$150 per round minimum this bill enacts—ignoring the fact that the vast majority of professional boxing bouts already exceed this minimum. Further, after 300,000 rounds or 75,000 4 round bouts (or hundreds of years), this bill will provide entry level boxers what it threatens to take from a single star boxer like Canelo Alvarez immediately. This bill is a naked power of billionaires seeking to redistribute revenue earned by boxers to their promotional company which will be enabled to utilize the same ruthless, coercive tactics that have already been found illegal in boxing (see the IBC case linked here) and most recently, in Judge Bouleware's class action opinion in the MMA antitrust lawsuit against the UFC. This bill seeks to legalize the UFC's anticompetitive business model in boxing—decades after it was already found illegal by both Congress and the Supreme Court.

<https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/358/242/>

Here is Judge Bouleware's class certification opinion:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/60663d496017a751ed8ca929/t/64f0be3a50c08c01b09e845f/1693498938800/BoutClass.pdf>

Not only does this bill strip away the pro-competitive protections afforded to boxers, but it will also render moot our bill the Muhammad Ali Expansion Act, which aimed to extend these protections to all combat sports. The same parent company that just settled the first of 4 pending antitrust lawsuits for monopolization for \$375 million dollars is now attempting to extend that monopoly power to boxing. It is telling that the first action of TKO Boxing is to seek a legislative exemption from the pro-competition protections provided by the Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act which have successfully prevented monopolization of boxing.

Given that we extensively lobbied for passage of the Ali Act and have been the main public source of opposition to this current shameful bill, we also request that at least one representative from our group be permitted to address your committee at the hearing. Please advise at your earliest convenience so we can prepare a statement and arrange for travel. This issue is vitally important to all of our members, to the entire martial arts and professional combat sports industry, and to all those who oppose monopolization. As is being demonstrated by TKO's attempt with this bill, monopolies grow tentacles and seek to spread.

Please watch minutes 29 through 34 of this video where Dana White explains why he doesn't pay fighters in order to in essence "keep them hungry." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94w2lwU-To0>.

Here are more recent statements where White is essentially saying the same thing-all while selling this bill to your committee as pro-labor.

Here is Dana White explaining that combat sports are not a job or a career-it offers the fighter the opportunity to become famous to make money outside the promotion. 85% of the money goes to the promoter under the UFC model. <https://x.com/jedigoodman/status/1990327830035710363?s=12>.

Here is Dana White explaining that fighters will blow their money, so no need to pay more and that keeps them more active (also dangerous): <https://x.com/jedigoodman/status/1990326985915322603?s=46>

Here is a link to our petition opposing this bill which is up to 1,258 signatures, including signatures of over 430 fighters and dozens of world champions:

- <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf-Vn2NG4GIUY3pSSLh4Ryo-TFjs8PL9TyCjz8uyjGdAWbBjQ/viewform>

Here is the text of our petition letter:

- [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ftS43yOmQ\\_M69cegXQyljBkbL9Qhsn2f/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ftS43yOmQ_M69cegXQyljBkbL9Qhsn2f/edit)

All of these materials are also relevant: <https://mmafa.tv/category/ali-act/>

Please find below a link to the video of our presentation we gave at the ABC annual conference where MMAFA fighters Nate Quarry and Kajan Johnson spoke. The first PDF attached are the slides to the presentation.

- [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bRbJfVwu6G4bjgakZ64xS0L1CcKrVBI\\_/view?usp=drivesdk](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bRbJfVwu6G4bjgakZ64xS0L1CcKrVBI_/view?usp=drivesdk)

Here is the petition of the three major sanctioning bodies:

- <https://www.change.org/p/protect-the-ali-act-keep-dana-white-out-of-boxing>

The WBO also announced in New Orleans that they would oppose this bill.

Our bill, the Ali Expansion Act, which has not been reintroduced, amends The Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act that was enacted May 26, 2000.

- The Amendment is simple! It simply expands the Ali Act's coverage by expanding the definition from "boxer" to "professional combat sports athlete" to encompass all professional combat sports athletes.
- The Ali Expansion Act was originally introduced in the House by Representative Markwayne Mullin (R.OK), himself a former fighter, as Bill H.R. 5365 on May 26, 2016.

- The Bill was reintroduced in the next Congress on January 3, 2017 as H.R. 44.
  - A Congressional Hearing on the MMA Industry was held on December 8, 2016: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=BmF76rg51cY>
  - A Congressional Hearing was held on November 9, 2017: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S03Z6a2ABWk>
- After meeting with the Energy & Commerce Committee, we were told we were going to the floor for a vote within 10 days, and that we had the votes for passage.
  - H.R. 44 had 58 co-sponsors, 33 Republicans and 25 Democrats showing broad bipartisan support.
  - Trump took office, and shortly after our meeting with the Energy and Commerce Committee, Dana White was tweeting photos of Trump and White in the Oval Office. Greg Walden, the chairman of the Energy & Commerce Committee at the time, would not put our bill to a vote nor release it from the Committee.

Here is a link to the Ali Expansion Act:

- <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/44>

Also attached above please find support letters opposing TKO/UFC's amendment from Representative J. Luis Correa representing Santa Ana, California and a support letter from Jonathan Ryan Hernandez, Councilmember for the City of Santa Ana, Benjamin Vazquez, Mayor Pro Tem of Santa Ana, California, and Vicente Sarmiento, Orange County Supervisor, Second District.

Please find attached a letter from Representative Brittany Pettersen of Colorado supporting our efforts to oppose TKO's bill.

This bill has also publicly been opposed by Pat English, the Association of Boxing Commissions general counsel and initial drafter of the original Ali Act, by hall of fame boxer Evander Holyfield, by Hall of Fame boxer and promoter Oscar De La Hoya, by Hall of Fame and legendary promoters Lou Dibella and Eddie Hearn. <https://x.com/oscardelahoya/status/1990273135502119391?s=46>

Finally, please find attached drafts of Senator's Mullin's Ali Expansion Act, which this bill will render moot by exempting the existing monopolist from its coverage. The future of the sport, industry and 1,000's of combat sports athletes rests on defeating this bill. We hope we get the opportunity to speak.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rob Maysey, Founder of MMAFA  
/s/ Rob Maysey

