

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS Regulated Industries Complaints Office

DCCA News Release

LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR

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NEW LAW SETS RULES FOR EXTREME-STYLE FIGHTS

HONOLULU – The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) is pleased to announce that Governor Linda Lingle has signed a bill (SB 768) into law that establishes minimum standards for no-rules-combat, extreme or ultimate fighting, and other similar competitions.

Act 54 puts specific safeguards in place, which require that:

- Contestants be medically fit adults who are not disqualified in another jurisdiction
- Promoters implement rules that protect the safety of the combatants
- An experienced referee is in the ring
- A licensed physician is at ringside
- Promoters provide proof to DCCA that their event complies with the new law at least 30 days before the event and must provide an unedited videotape of the event afterward.

Under the new law, the Regulated Industries Complaints Office (RICO) would be able to levy a fine of up to \$10,000 for each offense.

"The new law significantly enhances the Department's ability to better ensure participant safety," said DCCA Director Mark Recktenwald. "Now we have some minimum standards in place for what has become a popular type of event."

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