By:  Watson S.B. No. 1270

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility of certain exhibitions and festivals to receive funding through the Major Events Reimbursement Program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Sections 5A(a)(4) and (5), Chapter 1507 (S.B. 456), Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular Session, 1999 (Article 5190.14, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), are amended to read as follows:

(4)  "Event" means a Super Bowl, a National Collegiate Athletic Association Final Four tournament game, the National Basketball Association All-Star Game, the X Games, the National Hockey League All-Star Game, the Major League Baseball All-Star Game, a game of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Bowl Championship Series or its successor or a National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Bowl Subdivision postseason playoff or championship game, the National Collegiate Athletic Association men's or women's lacrosse championships, a World Cup Soccer game, the World Cup soccer tournament, the Major League Soccer All-Star Game, the Major League Soccer Cup, the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association National Finals Rodeo, an Elite Rodeo Association World Championship, the United States Open Championship, the World Games, a national collegiate championship of an amateur sport sanctioned by the national governing body of the sport that is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee, an Olympic activity, including a Junior or Senior activity, training program, or feeder program sanctioned by the United States Olympic Committee's Community Olympic Development Program, the Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympic Games, a mixed martial arts championship, the Breeders' Cup World Championships, a Formula One automobile race, the Moto Grand Prix of the United States, the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) All-Star Race, the season-ending Championship Race for the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR), the Academy of Country Music Awards, the National Cutting Horse Association Triple Crown, a world-renowned exhibition or festival that is recognized by the International World Exhibition & Festival Organization, a national political convention of the Republican National Committee or the Democratic National Committee, a presidential general election debate, or the largest event held each year at a sports entertainment venue in this state with a permanent seating capacity, including grandstand and premium seating, of not less than 125,000. The term includes any activities related to or associated with an event.

(5)  "Site selection organization" means:

(A)  the National Football League, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the National Basketball Association, ESPN or an affiliate, the National Hockey League, Major League Baseball, the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), the International World Games Association, the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR), Dorna Sports, the Amateur Athletic Union, the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, the Elite Rodeo Association, Major League Soccer, the United States Golf Association, or the United States Olympic Committee;

(B)  the national governing body of a sport that is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Formula One Management Limited, or the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile;

(C)  the Academy of Country Music;

(D)  the National Cutting Horse Association;

(E)  the International World Exhibition & Festival Organization;

(F) [~~(E)~~]  the Republican National Committee or the Democratic National Committee;

(G) [~~(F)~~]  the Ultimate Fighting Championship; or

(H) [~~(G)~~]  the Commission on Presidential Debates.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.