
HOUSE BILL 1929

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Lovick and Klippert

1 AN ACT Relating to restricting animal fighting paraphernalia;
2 amending RCW 16.52.117; and prescribing penalties.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 16.52.117 and 2015 c 235 s 3 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) A person commits the crime of animal fighting if the person
7 knowingly does any of the following or causes a minor to do any of
8 the following:

9 (a) Owns, possesses, keeps, breeds, trains, buys, sells, or
10 advertises or offers for sale any animal with the intent that the
11 animal shall be engaged in an exhibition of fighting with another
12 animal;

13 (b) Promotes, organizes, conducts, participates in, is a
14 spectator of, advertises, prepares, or performs any service in the
15 furtherance of, an exhibition of animal fighting, transports
16 spectators to an animal fight, or provides or serves as a stakeholder
17 for any money wagered on an animal fight;

18 (c) Keeps or uses any place for the purpose of animal fighting,
19 or manages or accepts payment of admission to any place kept or used
20 for the purpose of animal fighting;

1 (d) Suffers or permits any place over which the person has
2 possession or control to be occupied, kept, or used for the purpose
3 of an exhibition of animal fighting; (~~or~~)

4 (e) Takes, leads away, possesses, confines, sells, transfers, or
5 receives an animal with the intent of using the animal for animal
6 fighting, or for training or baiting for the purpose of animal
7 fighting; or

8 (f) Owns, possesses, buys, sells, transfers, or manufactures
9 animal fighting paraphernalia for the purpose of engaging in,
10 promoting, or facilitating animal fighting, or for baiting a live
11 animal for the purpose of animal fighting.

12 (2) A person who violates this section is guilty of a class C
13 felony punishable under RCW 9A.20.021.

14 (3) Nothing in this section prohibits the following:

15 (a) The use of dogs in the management of livestock, as defined by
16 chapter 16.57 RCW, by the owner of the livestock or the owner's
17 employees or agents or other persons in lawful custody of the
18 livestock;

19 (b) The use of dogs in hunting as permitted by law; or

20 (c) The training of animals or the use of equipment in the
21 training of animals for any purpose not prohibited by law.

22 (4) For the purposes of this section, "animal fighting
23 paraphernalia" includes equipment, products, implements, or materials
24 of any kind that are used, intended for use, or designed for use in
25 the training, preparation, conditioning, or furtherance of animal
26 fighting, and includes, but is not limited to: Breaking sticks; cat
27 mills; treadmills; fighting pits; springpoles; unprescribed
28 veterinary medicine; treatment supplies; and gaffs, slashers, heels,
29 and any other sharp implement designed to be attached in place of the
30 natural spur of a cock or game fowl.

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