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**HOUSE BILL 1929**

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**State of Washington**                      **66th Legislature**                      **2019 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Lovick, Klippert, Leavitt, and Stanford

Read first time 02/06/19. Referred to Committee on Public Safety.

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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