
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1257

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By House Committee on Criminal Justice & Corrections (originally sponsored by Representatives Carrell, Haigh, O'Brien and Shabro)

READ FIRST TIME 02/18/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to the sale or purchase of any dog for fighting
2 purposes; and amending RCW 16.52.117.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 16.52.117 and 1994 c 261 s 11 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Any person who does any of the following is guilty of a gross
7 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment not to exceed one year, or by a
8 fine not to exceed five thousand dollars, or by both fine and
9 imprisonment:

10 (a) Owns, possesses, keeps, or trains any animal with the intent
11 that the animal shall be engaged in an exhibition of fighting with
12 another animal;

13 (b) Sells or purchases any dog (Canidae) with the intent that the
14 dog shall be engaged in an exhibition of fighting with another animal;

15 (c) For amusement or gain causes any animal to fight with another
16 animal, or causes any animals to injure each other; or

17 ~~((e))~~ (d) Permits any act in violation of (a) ~~((e))~~, (b), or (c)
18 of this subsection to be done on any premises under his or her charge
19 or control, or promotes or aids or abets any such act.

1 (2) Any person who is knowingly present, as a spectator, at any
2 place or building where preparations are being made for an exhibition
3 of the fighting of animals, with the intent to be present at such
4 preparations, or is knowingly present at such exhibition or at any
5 other fighting or injuring as described in subsection (1)((~~b~~)) (c) of
6 this section, with the intent to be present at such exhibition,
7 fighting, or injuring, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

8 (3) Nothing in this section may prohibit the following:

9 (a) The use of dogs in the management of livestock, as defined by
10 chapter 16.57 RCW, by the owner of the livestock or the owner's
11 employees or agents or other persons in lawful custody of the
12 livestock;

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

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

16 (4) Mere ownership or possession of any animal does not create a
17 presumption that the animal is owned or possessed for any purpose
18 prohibited under this section.

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