

1 **H. B. 2443**

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3 (By Delegates Overington, Wells, Hunt, Longstreth,
4 Brown, Michael and Ferro)

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6 [Introduced January 13, 2011; referred to the
7 Committee on the Judiciary then Finance.]

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10 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by
11 adding thereto a new section, designated §61-8-19c, relating
12 to prohibiting wagering at animal fighting ventures and
13 providing a felony criminal penalty.

14 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

15 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended
16 by adding thereto a new section, designated §61-8-19c, to read as
17 follows:

18 **ARTICLE 8. CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY, MORALITY AND DECENCY.**

19 **§61-8-19c. Wagering at animal fighting ventures prohibited;**
20 **penalty.**

21 (a) It is unlawful for any person to bet or wage money or any
22 other thing of value in any location or place where an animal
23 fighting venture occurs.

24 (b) It is unlawful for any person to conduct, finance, manage,
25 supervise, direct, lease or own all or part of a business or

1 premises when that person has knowledge that betting or wagering at
2 an animal fighting venture occurs.

3 (c) Any person who violates the provisions of this section is
4 guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not
5 less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000, or imprisoned in a state
6 correctional facility not less than one year nor more than five
7 years, or both fined and imprisoned.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to prohibit wagering at animal fighting ventures and providing a felony criminal penalty.

This section is new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.