

1 **Senate Bill No. 334**

2 (By Senators Jenkins, Klempa and Kessler (Acting President))

3 _____
4 [Introduced January 28, 2011; referred to the Committee on the
5 Judiciary.]
6 _____

7
8
9
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 making it a felony to wager at animal fighting ventures;
13 making it a felony to conduct, finance, manage, supervise, own
14 or lease any part of an animal fighting venture or the
15 premises on which it takes place with knowledge that wagering
16 is occurring; and providing criminal penalty.

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

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

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

22 **§61-8-19c. Wagering at animal fighting prohibited; penalty.**

23 (a) It is unlawful for any person to bet or wager money or any
24 other thing of value in any location or place where an animal

1 fighting venture occurs.

2 (b) It is unlawful for any person to conduct, finance, manage,
3 supervise, direct, lease or own all or a part of a business or
4 premises involving betting or wagering on an animal fighting
5 venture with the knowledge that the betting or wagering is
6 occurring.

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

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to make wagering at animal fighting ventures and conducting, financing, managing, supervising, owning or leasing any part of an animal fighting venture or the premises on which it takes place with knowledge that wagering is occurring a felony.

This section is new; therefore, strike-throughs and underscoring have been omitted.