

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 334

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

[Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary;
reported February 16, 2011.]

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §61-8-19c, relating to making it a misdemeanor to wager at animal fighting ventures; creating the misdemeanor offense of 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; and providing a criminal penalty.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

**ARTICLE 8. CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY, MORALITY AND DE-
CENCY.**

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

1 (a) It is unlawful for any person to bet or wager money or
2 any other thing of value in any location or place where an
3 animal fighting venture occurs.

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

9 (c) Any person who violates the provisions of this section
10 is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof,
11 shall be confined in a jail for not more than one year, fined
12 not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$5,000, or both impris-
13 oned 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 misdemeanor.)

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