

FILED

2003 MAR 28 P 4: 45

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2003



ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR

House Bill No. 2753

(By Delegates Overington, Amores, Brown, Foster, Schadler, Craig and Calvert)



Passed March 8, 2003

In Effect Ninety Days from Passage

FILED
2003 MAR 28 P 4: 45
OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

E N R O L L E D

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

H. B. 2753

(BY DELEGATES OVERINGTON, AMORES, BROWN,
FOSTER, SCHADLER, CRAIG AND CALVERT)

[Passed March 8, 2003; in effect ninety days from passage.]

A BILL to amend and reenact section nineteen-a, article eight, chapter sixty-one of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended; and to further amend said article by adding thereto a new section, designated section nineteen-b, all relating to animal fighting; making it a felony to be involved in specifically defined animal fighting ventures; providing a penalty for violations; making it a misdemeanor to attend an animal fight and providing a penalty therefor.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section nineteen-a, article eight, chapter sixty-one of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted; and that said article be further

amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section nineteen-b, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 8. CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY, MORALITY AND DECENCY.

§61-8-19a. Animal fighting ventures prohibited.

1 (a) It is unlawful for any person to engage in, be employed
2 at, or sell an admission to any animal fighting venture.

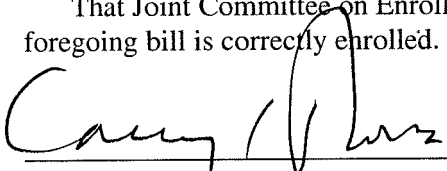
3 (b) Any person who violates the provisions of this section
4 is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall
5 be fined not less than one hundred dollars and not more than
6 one thousand dollars, or confined in the county jail not exceed-
7 ing one year, or both so fined and confined, and may be
8 divested of ownership and control of such animals, and be
9 liable for all costs for their care and maintenance: *Provided,*
10 That if the animal is a wild animal, game animal or fur-bearing
11 animal, as defined in section two, article one, chapter twenty of
12 this code, or wildlife not indigenous to West Virginia, or of a
13 canine, feline, porcine, bovine, or equine species whether wild
14 or domesticated, the person who violates the provisions of this
15 section is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall
16 be fined not less than one thousand dollars and not more than
17 five thousand dollars, and imprisoned in a state correctional
18 facility for not less than one nor more than five years, or both
19 fined and imprisoned,

**§61-8-19b. Attendance at animal fighting ventures prohibited;
penalty.**

1 (a) It is unlawful for any person to knowingly attend an
2 animal fighting venture involving animals as provided in
3 subsection (a) and (b), section nineteen-a, article eight of this
4 chapter.

5 (b) Any person who violates the provisions of this section
6 is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall
7 be fined not less than one hundred dollars and not more than
8 one thousand dollars, or confined in the county or regional jail
9 not more than one year, or both fined and imprisoned.

That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.



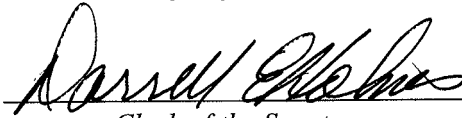
Chairman Senate Committee



Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

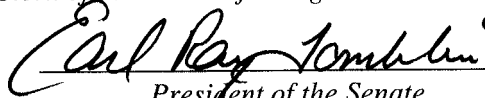
In effect ninety days from passage



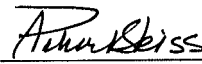
Clerk of the Senate



Clerk of the House of Delegates

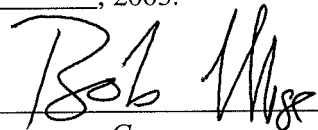


President of the Senate



Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 27th
day of March, 2003.



Governor

PRESENTED TO THE
GOVERNOR

Date 3/25/03

Time 9:40 am