

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

H.B. 507  
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40221-ML-99

Short Title: Animal Fights/Criminalize Attendance of Minor. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative McNeill.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO CRIMINALIZE THE ACT OF CAUSING A PERSON UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE TO BE PRESENT AT AN EXHIBITION FEATURING ANIMAL FIGHTING.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-362 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-362. **Cockfighting.**

A person who instigates, promotes, conducts, is employed at, allows property under his ownership or control to be used for, participates as a spectator at, causes a person under 16 years of age to be present at, or profits ~~from~~ from, an exhibition featuring the fighting of a cock is guilty of a Class I felony. A lease of property that is used or is intended to be used for an exhibition featuring the fighting of a cock is void, and a lessor who knows this use is made or is intended to be made of his property is under a duty to evict the lessee immediately."

**SECTION 2.** G.S. 14-362.1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-362.1. **Animal fights and baiting, other than cock fights, dog fights and dog baiting.**

...

(c) A person who participates as a spectator ~~at~~ at, or causes a person under 16 years of age to be present at, an exhibition featuring the fighting or baiting of an animal, other than a cock or a dog, is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

...."

**SECTION 3.** G.S. 14-362.2 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-362.2. **Dog fighting and baiting.**

...

(c) A person who participates as a spectator ~~at~~ at, or causes a person under 16 years of age to be present at, an exhibition featuring the baiting of a dog or the fighting of a dog with another dog or with another animal is guilty of a Class H felony.

...."

**SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2019, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

