

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019**

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**HOUSE BILL 507
Second Edition Engrossed 5/2/19**

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

Sponsors: Representatives McNeill, C. Smith, and Hurley (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Judiciary, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 1, 2019

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 18 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 18 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 18 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.

