

**First Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 15-0504.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

HOUSE BILL 15-1062

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Melton and Lebsock,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Balmer and Sonnenberg,

House Committees

Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING INCREASING THE PENALTIES FOR PERSONS WHO ENGAGE**
102 **IN ANIMAL FIGHTING.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

Under current law, animal fighting is a class 5 felony with an additional potential fine of:

- ! Up to \$1,000; or
- ! For a person who commits a second or subsequent offense, up to \$5,000.

The bill makes these additional fines mandatory in the amount of:

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

- ! At least \$1,000; or
- ! For a person who commits a second or subsequent offense, at least \$5,000.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-9-204, **amend** (2)
3 as follows:

4 **18-9-204. Animal fighting - penalty.** (2) (a) ~~Any~~ EXCEPT AS
5 DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (2), A person who
6 violates the provisions of this section commits a class 5 felony and, in
7 addition to the punishment provided in section 18-1.3-401, ~~may be~~
8 ~~punished by~~ THE COURT SHALL IMPOSE UPON THE PERSON a MANDATORY
9 fine of ~~up to~~ AT LEAST one thousand dollars.

10 (b) ~~Any~~ A person ~~committing~~ WHO COMMITS a second or
11 subsequent violation of this section commits a class 4 felony and, in
12 addition to the punishment provided in section 18-1.3-401, ~~may be~~
13 ~~punished by~~ THE COURT SHALL IMPOSE UPON THE PERSON a MANDATORY
14 fine of ~~up to~~ AT LEAST five thousand dollars.

15 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
16 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
17 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
18 5, 2015, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2015); except that, if a
19 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
20 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
21 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
22 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in

- 1 November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
- 2 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.