



# HOUSE BILL 507: Animal Fights/Criminalize Attendance of Minor.

2019-2020 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Judiciary. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	April 29, 2019
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. McNeill, C. Smith, Hurley	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Shawn Middlebrooks Staff Attorney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 507 would make it unlawful for any person to cause a person under the age of 16 to be present at an exhibition featuring animal fighting.*

## CURRENT LAW:

A person who participates as a *spectator* or *profits* from an illegal animal fight is guilty as follows:

- **G.S. 14-362** (Cockfighting) – Class I felony (3 to 24 months incarceration).
- **G.S. 14-362.1** (Animal fights, other than cock fight and dog fight) – Class 2 misdemeanor (up to 60 days incarceration).
- **G.S. 14-362.2** (Dog fighting) – Class H felony (4 to 39 months incarceration).

## Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor :

Any person who is at least 16 that encourages or aids any juvenile to be in a place or condition, or to commit an act whereby the juvenile could be declared delinquent is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor (up to 120 days incarceration). G.S. 14-316.1.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 507 would make it unlawful for any persons to cause a person under 16 years of age *to be present* at an exhibition featuring an illegal animal fight.

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

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