

**NOTE: This bill has been prepared for the signatures of the appropriate legislative officers and the Governor. To determine whether the Governor has signed the bill or taken other action on it, please consult the legislative status sheet, the legislative history, or the Session Laws.**

# An Act

HOUSE BILL 15-1062

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Melton and Lebsock, Arndt, Becker K., Court, Esgar, Garnett, Ginal, McCann, Pabon, Primavera, Rosenthal, Roupe, Singer, Williams, Winter, Young;  
also SENATOR(S) Balmer and Sonnenberg, Donovan, Grantham, Guzman, Heath, Jones, Kefalas, Kerr, Martinez Humenik, Newell, Scott, Steadman, Todd, Ulibarri.

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

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

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

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

(b) ~~Any~~ A person ~~committing~~ WHO COMMITS a second or subsequent

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*Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.*

violation of this section commits a class 4 felony and, in addition to the punishment provided in section 18-1.3-401, ~~may be punished by~~ THE COURT SHALL IMPOSE UPON THE PERSON a MANDATORY fine of ~~up to~~ AT LEAST five thousand dollars.

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

approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

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Dickey Lee Hullinghorst  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Bill L. Cadman  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE SENATE

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Marilyn Eddins  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Cindi L. Markwell  
SECRETARY OF  
THE SENATE

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

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John W. Hickenlooper  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO