

1 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

2 FOR

3 **Senate Bill No. 334**

4 (By Senators Jenkins, Klempa and Kessler (Acting President))

5 _____
6 [Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary;

7 reported February 16, 2011.]

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11 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by
12 adding thereto a new section, designated §61-8-19c, relating
13 to making it a misdemeanor to wager at animal fighting
14 ventures; creating the misdemeanor offense of conducting,
15 financing, managing, supervising, owning or leasing any part
16 of an animal fighting venture or the premises on which it
17 takes place with knowledge that wagering is occurring; and
18 providing a criminal penalty.

19 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

20 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended
21 by adding thereto a new section, designated §61-8-19c, to read as
22 follows:

23 **ARTICLE 8. CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY, MORALITY AND DECENCY.**

24 **§61-8-19c. Wagering at animal fighting prohibited; penalty.**

25 (a) It is unlawful for any person to bet or wager money or any

1 other thing of value in any location or place where an animal
2 fighting venture occurs.

3 (b) It is unlawful for any person to conduct, finance, manage,
4 supervise, direct, lease or own all or a part of a business or
5 premises involving betting or wagering on an animal fighting
6 venture with the knowledge that the betting or wagering is
7 occurring.

8 (c) Any person who violates the provisions of this section is
9 guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be
10 confined in a jail for not more than one year, fined not less than
11 \$1,000 nor more than \$5,000, or both imprisoned and fined.

(NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to make wagering at animal fighting ventures and conducting, financing, managing, supervising, owning or leasing any part of an animal fighting venture or the premises on which it takes place with knowledge that wagering is occurring a misdemeanor.

This section is new; therefore, strike-throughs and underscoring have been omitted.)