

2021 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 144

BY SENATORS TARVER AND CARTER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

CRIME/PUNISHMENT. Creates the crime of unlawful possession, transfer, or manufacture of animal fighting paraphernalia. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 14:102.29, relative to offenses affecting the public sensibility; to create the

3 crime of unlawful possession, transfer, or manufacture of animal fighting

4 paraphernalia; to provide definitions; to provide exceptions; to provide penalties; and

5 to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 14:102.29 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 **§102.29. Unlawful possession, transfer, or manufacture of animal fighting**

9 **paraphernalia**

10 **A. It shall be unlawful for any person to possess, purchase, sell, transfer,**

11 **or manufacture animal fighting paraphernalia with the intent to engage in,**

12 **promote, or facilitate animal fighting in violation of R.S. 14:102.1, 102.5, or**

13 **102.23, or any other provision of law.**

14 **B. For purposes of this Section, "animal fighting paraphernalia" means**

15 **equipment, products, implements, or materials of any kind that are used,**

16 **intended for use, or designed for use in the training, preparation, conditioning,**

17 **or furtherance of animal fighting, and includes but is not limited to the**

1           **following:**

2                   **(1) Breaking sticks.**

3                   **(2) Cat mills.**

4                   **(3) Treadmills.**

5                   **(4) Fighting pits.**

6                   **(5) Spring poles.**

7                   **(6) Unprescribed veterinary medicine.**

8                   **(7) Veterinary treatment supplies.**

9                   **(8)(a) Spurs, gaffs, knives, leather training spur covers, slashers, heels,**  
10                   **or any other sharp implement designed to be attached in place of the natural**  
11                   **spur of a cock or game fowl.**

12                   **(b) This Paragraph shall not be construed to prohibit the possessing,**  
13                   **buying, selling, or trading of any spurs, gaffs, knives, leather training spur**  
14                   **covers, or any other items normally used in cockfighting that are at least five**  
15                   **years old and have historical value.**

16                   **C. Nothing in this Section shall prohibit the training of animals or the**  
17                   **use of equipment in the training of animals for any purpose not prohibited by**  
18                   **law.**

19                   **D. Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be fined not more**  
20                   **than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.**

21           Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
22           signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
23           by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
24           vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
25           effective on the day following such approval.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alden A. Clement Jr.

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fighting paraphernalia.

Proposed law provides that it is unlawful for any person to possess, purchase, sell, transfer, or manufacture animal fighting paraphernalia with the intent to engage in, promote, or facilitate animal fighting, including dogfighting, cockfighting, or any other form of animal fighting prohibited by present law.

Proposed law defines "animal fighting paraphernalia" as equipment, products, implements, and materials of any kind that are used, intended for use, or designed for use in the training, preparation, conditioning, or furtherance of animal fighting, including breaking sticks, cat mills, treadmills, fighting pits, spring poles, unprescribed veterinary medicine, veterinary treatment supplies, spurs, gaffs, knives, leather training spur covers, slashers, heels, or any other sharp implement designed to be attached in place of the natural spur of a cock or game fowl. However, proposed law does not prohibit the possessing, buying, selling, or trading of any spurs, gaffs, knives, leather training spur covers, or any other items normally used in cockfighting that are at least five years old and have historical value.

Proposed law does not prohibit the training of animals or the use of equipment in the training of animals for any purpose not prohibited by present law or proposed law.

A violation of proposed law is punishable by a fine of up to \$500, or imprisonment of up to six months, or both.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 14:102.29)