
By: Delegates Owings and Perry

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 13, 1996

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes - Dogfights - Attendance**

3 [TAG ftpo]FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from knowingly attending a ~~dogfight~~
4 deliberately conducted dogfight as a spectator; and generally relating to dogfights.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

6 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

7 Section ~~59(b)~~ 59(a)

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments**

13 59.

14 ~~(b) Any person who (1) intentionally mutilates or cruelly kills an animal, or~~
15 ~~causes, procures, or authorizes the cruel killing or intentional mutilation of an animal;~~
16 ~~[or] (2) uses or permits a dog to be used in A DOGFIGHT; or (3) arranges [or], conducts,~~
17 ~~OR ATTENDS a dogfight, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not exceeding~~
18 ~~\$5,000 or by imprisonment not to exceed 3 years, or both.~~

19 (a) Any person who (1) overdrives, overloads, deprives of necessary sustenance,
20 tortures, torments, or cruelly beats; or (2) causes, procures or authorizes these acts; or (3)
21 having the charge or custody of an animal, either as owner or otherwise, inflicts
22 unnecessary suffering or pain upon the animal, or unnecessarily fails to provide the
23 animal with nutritious food in sufficient quantity, necessary veterinary care, proper drink,
24 air, space, shelter or protection from the weather; or (4) uses or permits to be used any

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1 bird, fowl, or cock for the purpose of fighting with any other animal, which is commonly
2 known as cockfighting[.]; OR (5) KNOWINGLY ATTENDS A DELIBERATELY
3 CONDUCTED DOGFIGHT AS A SPECTATOR, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a
4 fine not exceeding \$1,000 or by imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or both.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 1996.