

## CHAPTER 350

(Senate Bill 44)

AN ACT concerning

### **Criminal Law - Dogfight and Cockfight Attendance - Penalties**

FOR the purpose of ~~making it a felony to attend a dogfight or a cockfight under certain circumstances; altering the penalty~~ certain penalties for knowingly attending a deliberately conducted dogfight or a deliberately conducted event that uses a fowl, cock, or other bird to fight another fowl, cock, or other bird; and generally relating to penalties for attendance at a dogfight or a cockfight.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Criminal Law

Section 10-605

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

#### **Article - Criminal Law**

10-605.

(a) A person may not knowingly attend a deliberately conducted dogfight as a spectator.

(b) A person may not knowingly attend as a spectator a deliberately conducted event that uses a fowl, cock, or other bird to fight with another fowl, cock, or other bird.

(c) (1) A person who violates this section is guilty of a ~~[misdemeanor]~~ ~~FELONY~~ and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding [90 days] ~~3 YEARS~~ 1 YEAR or a fine not exceeding [\$1,000] ~~\$5,000~~ \$2,500 or both.

(2) As a condition of sentencing, the court may order a defendant convicted of violating this section to participate in and pay for psychological counseling.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2008.

Ch. 350

MARTIN O'MALLEY, Governor

**Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2008.**