

CHAPTER 351

(House Bill 719)

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.

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MARTIN O'MALLEY, Governor

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2008.