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ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 199—ASSEMBLYMEN GANSERT, HARDY;  
AIZLEY, ARBERRY, CLABORN, COBB, GUSTAVSON, HORNE,  
KIHUEN, LESLIE, MANENDO, MCCLAIN, MUNFORD,  
SETTELMAYER, STEWART AND WOODBURY

FEBRUARY 19, 2009

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JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS TOWNSEND; CEGAVSKE, HARDY,  
MCGINNESS, RAGGIO AND WASHINGTON

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Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,  
Agriculture, and Mining

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to fights between  
animals. (BDR 50-717)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Increases or Newly  
Provides for Term of Imprisonment in County or City  
Jail or Detention Facility.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

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AN ACT relating to animals; prohibiting a person from owning,  
possessing, keeping, training, promoting or purchasing an  
animal with the intent to use it to fight another animal or  
from selling an animal knowing that it is intended to be  
used to fight another animal; revising the provisions  
regarding witnesses to such fights; providing a penalty;  
and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

1 Existing law prohibits a person from instigating, promoting or in any way  
2 engaging in the furtherance of any fight between animals in an exhibition or for  
3 amusement or gain which is premeditated by a person who owns or has custody of  
4 the animals. (NRS 574.070) This bill prohibits a person from owning, possessing,  
5 keeping, training, promoting or purchasing an animal with the intent to use it to  
6 fight another animal or from selling an animal knowing that it is intended to be  
7 used to fight another animal. If a person commits such a violation, he is guilty of a  
8 gross misdemeanor for a first offense, a category E felony for a second offense and  
9 a category D felony for a third or subsequent offense.



\* A B 1 9 9 \*

10 Under existing law, a person is prohibited from witnessing any fight between  
11 animals in an exhibition or for amusement or gain. This bill requires a person to  
12 knowingly witness such a fight in order to be guilty of a violation.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 574.070 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2 574.070 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a  
3 person shall not ~~[set on foot,]~~ *begin, cause*, instigate, promote, carry  
4 on or do any act as an assistant, umpire or principal, or in any way  
5 aid in or engage in the furtherance of any fight between ~~[cocks or~~  
6 ~~other birds, or bulls, bears or other]~~ animals in an exhibition or for  
7 amusement or gain ~~[.]~~ *which is* premeditated by a person owning or  
8 having custody of ~~[such birds or]~~ *the* animals.

9 2. *A person shall not:*

10 (a) *Own, possess, keep, train, promote or purchase an animal*  
11 *with the intent to use it to fight another animal; or*

12 (b) *Sell an animal knowing that it is intended to be used to*  
13 *fight another animal.*

14 3. A person shall not *knowingly* witness any fight between  
15 ~~[cocks or other birds, or bulls, bears or other]~~ animals in an  
16 exhibition or for amusement or gain. ~~[, which is premeditated by a~~  
17 ~~person having custody of such birds or animals.~~

18 ~~—3.]~~ 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection ~~[5,]~~ 7, a  
19 person who violates any provision of subsection 1 is guilty of:

20 (a) For a first offense, a gross misdemeanor.

21 (b) For a second offense, a category E felony and shall be  
22 punished as provided in NRS 193.130.

23 (c) For a third or subsequent offense, a category D felony and  
24 shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.

25 ~~[4.]~~ 5. *A person who violates any provision of subsection 2 is*  
26 *guilty of:*

27 (a) *For a first offense, a gross misdemeanor.*

28 (b) *For a second offense, a category E felony and shall be*  
29 *punished as provided in NRS 193.130.*

30 (c) *For a third or subsequent offense, a category D felony and*  
31 *shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.*

32 6. A person who violates any provision of subsection ~~[2]~~ 3 is  
33 guilty of:

34 (a) For a first offense, a misdemeanor.

35 (b) For a second offense, a gross misdemeanor.

36 (c) For a third or subsequent offense, a category E felony and  
37 shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.



- 1     ~~5-~~ 7. If a violation of subsection 1 involves a dog, a person  
2 who commits such a violation is guilty of:  
3     (a) For a first offense, a category D felony and shall be punished  
4 as provided in NRS 193.130.  
5     (b) For a second offense, a category C felony and shall be  
6 punished as provided in NRS 193.130.  
7     (c) For a third or subsequent offense, a category B felony and  
8 shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for a  
9 minimum term of not less than 1 year and a maximum term of not  
10 more than 6 years.  
11    ~~6-~~ 8. If a person who violates this section is not a natural  
12 person, he shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000.  
13    ~~7-~~ 9. This section does not prohibit the use of dogs or birds  
14 for:  
15    (a) The management of livestock by the owner thereof, his  
16 employees or agents or any other person in the lawful custody of the  
17 livestock; or  
18    (b) Hunting as permitted by law.

