

By Representative Sobel

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to fighting and baiting
3 animals; amending s. 828.122, F.S.; providing a
4 third degree felony penalty for owning,
5 possessing, keeping, training, promoting,
6 transporting, purchasing, or selling an animal
7 for the purpose of fighting or baiting;
8 providing for nonapplicability; providing
9 construction; providing an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 828.122, Florida
14 Statutes, is amended to read:

15 828.122 Fighting or baiting animals; offenses;
16 penalties.--

17 (3) Any person who commits any of the following acts
18 is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as
19 provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084:

20 (a) Baiting, or using any animal for the purpose of
21 fighting or baiting any other animal.

22 **(b) Owning, possessing, keeping, training, promoting,**
23 **transporting, purchasing, or selling any animal for the**
24 **purpose of fighting or baiting.**

25 **(c)**~~(b)~~ Knowingly owning, managing, or operating any
26 facility kept or used for the purpose of fighting or baiting
27 any animal.

28 **(d)**~~(c)~~ Promoting, staging, advertising, or charging
29 any admission fee to a fight or baiting between two or more
30 animals.

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1 (6) The provisions of subsection (3) and paragraph
2 (4)(b) shall not apply to:
3 (a) Any person simulating a fight for the purpose of
4 using the simulated fight as part of a motion picture which
5 will be used on television or in a motion picture, provided s.
6 828.12 is not violated.
7 (b) Any person using animals to pursue or take
8 wildlife or to participate in any hunting regulated or subject
9 to being regulated by the rules and regulations of the Fish
10 and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
11 (c) Any person using animals to work livestock for
12 agricultural purposes.
13 (d) Any person violating s. 828.121.
14 (e) Any person using animals to hunt wild hogs or to
15 retrieve domestic hogs.
16 (7) Nothing in this section shall be construed to
17 prohibit, impede, or otherwise interfere with recognized
18 animal husbandry and training techniques or practices not
19 otherwise specifically prohibited by law.
20 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
21 law.

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24 HOUSE SUMMARY

25 Provides a third degree felony penalty for owning,
26 possessing, keeping, training, promoting, transporting,
27 purchasing, or selling an animal for the purpose of
28 fighting or baiting.
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