

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: CS/ SB 1418

SPONSOR: Agriculture Committee and Senators Aronberg and Campbell

SUBJECT: Cruelty to Animals/Bovines

DATE: April 13, 2004 REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Weidenbenner</u>	<u>Poole</u>	<u>AG</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.	_____	_____	<u>CJ</u>	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

## I. Summary:

This bill defines the term “bovine animal” and makes the exhibition sport known as “bulltailing” a felony of the third degree, and specifically excludes recognized rodeo and animal husbandry practices that are not otherwise prohibited by law. It also makes simulated or bloodless bullfighting a second degree misdemeanor.

This bill substantially amends section 828.121 of the Florida Statutes.

## II. Present Situation:

It has been reported that a sport known as “bulltailing” is being conducted in Florida. From information gathered, the activity consists of two horse mounted contestants chasing a bull up and down an oblong arena, competing to flip the animal over by using its tail.

Presently it is a misdemeanor without specification of degree to engage in a simulated or bloodless bullfight.

## III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

**Section 1.** Defines the term “bovine animal” to mean an animal of the subfamily bovine and includes, but is not limited to, a steer, calf, bull, ox, heifer, or cow.

It bans a person from intentionally dragging or felling by the tail a bovine animal in an organized sports exhibition and makes a violation a felony of the third degree.

Makes a violation of the prohibition against simulated or bloodless bullfighting exhibitions a misdemeanor of the second degree.

It specifically excludes rodeo and animal husbandry practices that are not otherwise prohibited by law.

**Section 2.** Provides that this act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

**IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

**V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The bill creates a felony penalty for participating in bulltailing events.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Amendments:**

None.