

8199

I N   S E N A T E

September 28, 2016

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Introduced by Sen. KAMINSKY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law and the penal law, in relation to detecting, disrupting and dismantling violent enterprise animal cruelty and appropriately punishing individuals associated with such enterprise cruelty; and to repeal certain provisions of the agriculture and markets law relating thereto

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

1     Section 1. Section 350 of the agriculture and markets law is amended  
2     by adding two new subdivisions 6 and 7 to read as follows:  
3     6. "ANIMAL FIGHTING" MEANS ANY FIGHT BETWEEN ANIMALS, OR BETWEEN ANY  
4     ANIMAL AND A PERSON OR PERSONS, FOR AMUSEMENT OR GAIN. THE TERM SHALL  
5     NOT BE CONSTRUED TO INCLUDE EXHIBITIONS OF A KIND COMMONLY FEATURED AT  
6     RODEOS.  
7     7. "ANIMAL FIGHTING PARAPHERNALIA" MEANS EQUIPMENT, PRODUCTS, OR MATE-  
8     RIALS OF ANY KIND THAT ARE USED, INTENDED FOR USE, OR DESIGNED FOR USE  
9     IN THE TRAINING, PREPARATION, CONDITIONING OR FURTHERANCE OF ANIMAL  
10    FIGHTING. ANIMAL FIGHTING PARAPHERNALIA INCLUDES (I) A BREAKING STICK,  
11    WHICH MEANS A DEVICE DESIGNED FOR INSERTION BEHIND THE MOLARS OF A DOG  
12    FOR THE PURPOSE OF BREAKING THE DOG'S GRIP ON ANOTHER ANIMAL OR OBJECT,  
13    (II) A CAT MILL, WHICH MEANS A DEVICE THAT ROTATES AROUND A CENTRAL  
14    SUPPORT WITH ONE ARM DESIGNED TO SECURE A DOG AND ONE ARM DESIGNED TO  
15    SECURE A CAT, RABBIT, OR OTHER SMALL ANIMAL BEYOND THE GRASP OF THE DOG,  
16    (III) A TREADMILL, WHICH MEANS AN EXERCISE DEVICE CONSISTING OF AN  
17    ENDLESS BELT ON WHICH THE ANIMAL WALKS OR RUNS WITHOUT CHANGING PLACES,  
18    (IV) A SPRINGPOLE, WHICH MEANS A BITING SURFACE ATTACHED TO A STRETCHA-  
19    BLE DEVICE, SUSPENDED AT A HEIGHT SUFFICIENT TO PREVENT A DOG FROM  
20    REACHING THE BITING SURFACE WHILE TOUCHING THE GROUND, (V) A FIGHTING  
21    PIT, WHICH MEANS A WALLED AREA, OR OTHERWISE DEFINED AREA, DESIGNED TO  
22    CONTAIN AN ANIMAL FIGHT, AND (VI) ANY OTHER INSTRUMENT COMMONLY USED IN  
23    THE FURTHERANCE OF PITTING AN ANIMAL AGAINST ANOTHER ANIMAL.  
24    S 2. Section 351 of the agriculture and markets law is REPEALED and a  
25    new section 351 is added to read as follows:

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD16102-01-6

1 S 351. PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE THIRD DEGREE. A PERSON IS  
2 GUILTY OF PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE THIRD DEGREE WHEN SUCH  
3 PERSON:

4 1. OWNS, POSSESSES, SELLS, TRANSFERS OR MANUFACTURES ANIMAL FIGHTING  
5 PARAPHERNALIA UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES EVINCING AN INTENT THAT SUCH PARAPHER-  
6 NALIA BE USED TO ENGAGE IN OR OTHERWISE PROMOTE OR FACILITATE ANIMAL  
7 FIGHTING; OR

8 2. IS PRESENT AT ANY PLACE WHERE AN EXHIBITION OF ANIMAL FIGHTING IS  
9 BEING CONDUCTED AND SUCH PERSON HAS KNOWLEDGE THAT SUCH AN EXHIBITION IS  
10 BEING CONDUCTED.

11 PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE THIRD DEGREE IS A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR  
12 AND, FOR PURPOSES OF PARAGRAPH (B) OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION 160.10  
13 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE LAW, SHALL BE TREATED AS A MISDEMEANOR DEFINED  
14 IN THE PENAL LAW.

15 S 3. The agriculture and markets law is amended by adding four new  
16 sections 351-a, 351-b, 351-c and 351-d to read as follows:

17 S 351-A. PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE SECOND DEGREE. A PERSON IS  
18 GUILTY OF PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE SECOND DEGREE WHEN SUCH  
19 PERSON:

20 1. OWNS, POSSESSES, OR KEEPS ANY ANIMAL UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES EVINCING  
21 AN INTENT THAT SUCH ANIMAL ENGAGE IN, OR IN ANY WAY FACILITATE, ANIMAL  
22 FIGHTING; OR

23 2. COMMITS THE CRIME OF PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE THIRD DEGREE  
24 IN VIOLATION OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE OF  
25 THIS ARTICLE AND HAS BEEN CONVICTED WITHIN THE PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS OF A  
26 VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION, SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE, THREE  
27 HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE-B, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-THREE, THREE HUNDRED  
28 FIFTY-THREE-A, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-NINE, THREE  
29 HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE, OR THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX OF THIS ARTICLE; OR

30 3. COMMITS THE CRIME OF PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE THIRD DEGREE  
31 IN VIOLATION OF SUBDIVISION TWO OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE OF  
32 THIS ARTICLE, AND:

33 (A) HAS BEEN CONVICTED WITHIN THE PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS OF A VIOLATION  
34 OF THIS SECTION, SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE, THREE HUNDRED  
35 FIFTY-ONE-B, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-THREE, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-THREE-A,  
36 THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-NINE, THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-  
37 ONE, OR THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX OF THIS ARTICLE, OR

38 (B) HAS PAID AN ADMISSION FEE, MADE A WAGER, OR OTHERWISE ACTIVELY  
39 CONTRIBUTED, IN ANY MANNER, TO THE EXHIBITION OF ANIMAL FIGHTING BEING  
40 CONDUCTED.

41 PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE SECOND DEGREE IS A CLASS A MISDEMEA-  
42 NOR AND, FOR PURPOSES OF PARAGRAPH (B) OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION  
43 160.10 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE LAW, SHALL BE TREATED AS A MISDEMEANOR  
44 DEFINED IN THE PENAL LAW.

45 S 351-B. PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE FIRST DEGREE. A PERSON IS  
46 GUILTY OF PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE FIRST DEGREE WHEN SUCH  
47 PERSON:

48 1. CAUSES AN ANIMAL TO ENGAGE IN ANIMAL FIGHTING;

49 2. TRAINS AN ANIMAL UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES EVINCING AN INTENT THAT SUCH  
50 ANIMAL ENGAGE IN ANIMAL FIGHTING;

51 3. BREEDS, TRANSFERS, SELLS, OR OFFERS FOR SALE AN ANIMAL UNDER  
52 CIRCUMSTANCES EVINCING AN INTENT THAT SUCH ANIMAL ENGAGE IN ANIMAL  
53 FIGHTING;

54 4. PERMITS ANY ACT DESCRIBED IN SUBDIVISION ONE, TWO OR THREE OF THIS  
55 SECTION TO OCCUR ON PREMISES UNDER HIS OR HER CONTROL; OR

1 5. OWNS, POSSESSES, HARBORS, OR KEEPS ANY ANIMAL ON PREMISES WHERE AN  
2 EXHIBITION OF ANIMAL FIGHTING IS BEING CONDUCTED UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES  
3 EVINCING AN INTENT THAT SUCH ANIMAL ENGAGE IN ANIMAL FIGHTING.

4 PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE FIRST DEGREE IS A CLASS D FELONY.

5 S 351-C. PROMOTING ENTERPRISE ANIMAL FIGHTING. A PERSON IS GUILTY OF  
6 PROMOTING ENTERPRISE ANIMAL FIGHTING WHEN SUCH PERSON:

7 1. COMMITS THE CRIME OF PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE FIRST DEGREE  
8 IN VIOLATION OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE-B OF  
9 THIS ARTICLE AS PART OF, DURING, OR IN CONNECTION WITH A CONTINUOUS  
10 EXHIBITION OF ANIMAL FIGHTING THAT INCLUDES MORE THAN TWO ANIMALS IN  
11 SUCCESSIVE ACTS OF ANIMAL FIGHTING;

12 2. COMMITS THE CRIME OF PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE FIRST DEGREE  
13 IN VIOLATION OF SUBDIVISION TWO OR THREE OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED  
14 FIFTY-ONE-B OF THIS ARTICLE AND IS IN POSSESSION OF MORE THAN SIX  
15 ANIMALS UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES EVINCING AN INTENT THAT SUCH ANIMALS ENGAGE  
16 IN, OR OTHERWISE FACILITATE, ANIMAL FIGHTING;

17 3. PERMITS AN ACT DESCRIBED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION THREE  
18 HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE-B OF THIS ARTICLE TO OCCUR ON PREMISES UNDER HIS OR  
19 HER CONTROL, WHERE SUCH ACT IS A CONTINUOUS EXHIBITION OF ANIMAL FIGHT-  
20 ING THAT INCLUDES MORE THAN TWO ANIMALS IN SUCCESSIVE ACTS OF ANIMAL  
21 FIGHTING; OR

22 4. COMMITS THE CRIME OF PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE FIRST DEGREE  
23 IN VIOLATION OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE-B OF THIS ARTICLE AND  
24 HAS BEEN CONVICTED, WITHIN THE PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS, OF A VIOLATION OF  
25 SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE-A, THREE  
26 HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE-B, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-THREE, THREE HUNDRED  
27 FIFTY-THREE-A, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-NINE, THREE  
28 HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE, OR THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX OF THIS ARTICLE.

29 PROMOTING ENTERPRISE ANIMAL FIGHTING IN THE FIRST DEGREE IS A CLASS C  
30 FELONY.

31 S 351-D. AUTHORIZED DISPOSITIONS; PROMOTING ANIMAL FIGHTING. WHEN A  
32 PERSON IS CONVICTED OF AN OFFENSE DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION  
33 THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE-A OF THIS ARTICLE, IN ADDITION TO THE PENALTIES  
34 PROVIDED IN SECTION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR OF THIS ARTICLE AND THOSE  
35 PROVIDED IN THE OTHER LAWS OF THIS STATE, THE COURT MAY IMPOSE A FINE  
36 WHICH SHALL NOT EXCEED FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS. WHEN A PERSON IS  
37 CONVICTED OF AN OFFENSE DEFINED IN SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE-B OF  
38 THIS ARTICLE, IN ADDITION TO THE PENALTIES PROVIDED IN SECTION THREE  
39 HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR OF THIS ARTICLE AND THOSE PROVIDED IN THE OTHER  
40 LAWS OF THIS STATE, THE COURT MAY IMPOSE A FINE WHICH SHALL NOT EXCEED  
41 TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS. WHEN A PERSON IS CONVICTED OF AN OFFENSE  
42 DEFINED IN SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE-C OF THIS ARTICLE, IN ADDI-  
43 TION TO THE PENALTIES PROVIDED IN SECTION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR OF  
44 THIS ARTICLE AND THOSE PROVIDED IN THE OTHER LAWS OF THIS STATE, THE  
45 COURT MAY IMPOSE A FINE WHICH SHALL NOT EXCEED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND  
46 DOLLARS.

47 S 4. Paragraph a of subdivision 8 of section 374 of the agriculture  
48 and markets law, as amended by chapter 594 of the laws of 2003 and  
49 subdivision 8 as renumbered by chapter 479 of the laws of 2009, is  
50 amended to read as follows:

51 a. In addition to any other penalty provided by law, upon conviction  
52 for any violation of section three hundred fifty-one, THREE HUNDRED  
53 FIFTY-ONE-A, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE-B, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE-C, three  
54 hundred fifty-three, three hundred fifty-three-a, three hundred fifty-  
55 three-b, three hundred fifty-five, three hundred fifty-six, three  
56 hundred fifty-nine, three hundred sixty, three hundred sixty-one, three

1 hundred sixty-five or three hundred sixty-eight of this article, the  
2 convicted person may, after a duly held hearing pursuant to paragraph f  
3 of this subdivision, be ordered by the court to forfeit, to a duly  
4 incorporated society for the prevention of cruelty to animals or a duly  
5 incorporated humane society or authorized agents thereof, the animal or  
6 animals which are the basis of the conviction. Upon such an order of  
7 forfeiture, the convicted person shall be deemed to have relinquished  
8 all rights to the animals which are the basis of the conviction, except  
9 those granted in paragraph d of this subdivision.

10 S 5. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 70.06 of the penal law,  
11 as amended by chapter 410 of the laws of 1979, is amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 (a) A second felony offender is a person, other than a second violent  
14 felony offender as defined in section 70.04, who stands convicted of a  
15 felony [defined in this chapter], other than a class A-I felony, after  
16 having previously been subjected to one or more predicate felony  
17 convictions as defined in paragraph (b) of this subdivision.

18 S 6. Severability clause. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivi-  
19 sion, section or part of this act shall be adjudged by any court of  
20 competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect,  
21 impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in  
22 its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section  
23 or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judg-  
24 ment shall have been rendered. It is hereby declared to be the intent of  
25 the legislature that this act would have been enacted even if such  
26 invalid provisions had not been included herein.

27 S 7. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall  
28 have become a law.