



[RCWs](#) > [Title 16](#) > [Chapter 16.52](#) > [Section 16.52.117](#)

[16.52.110](#) << [16.52.117](#) >> [16.52.165](#)

RCW 16.52.117

Animal fighting—Prohibited behavior—Class C felony—Exceptions.

(1) A person commits the crime of animal fighting if the person knowingly does any of the following or causes a minor to do any of the following:

(a) Owns, possesses, keeps, breeds, trains, buys, sells, or advertises or offers for sale any animal with the intent that the animal shall be engaged in an exhibition of fighting with another animal;

(b) Promotes, organizes, conducts, participates in, is a spectator of, advertises, prepares, or performs any service in the furtherance of, an exhibition of animal fighting, transports spectators to an animal fight, or provides or serves as a stakeholder for any money wagered on an animal fight;

(c) Keeps or uses any place for the purpose of animal fighting, or manages or accepts payment of admission to any place kept or used for the purpose of animal fighting;

(d) Suffers or permits any place over which the person has possession or control to be occupied, kept, or used for the purpose of an exhibition of animal fighting; or

(e) Takes, leads away, possesses, confines, sells, transfers, or receives an animal with the intent of using the animal for animal fighting, or for training or baiting for the purpose of animal fighting.

(2) A person who violates this section is guilty of a class C felony punishable under RCW [9A.20.021](#).

(3) Nothing in this section prohibits the following:

(a) The use of dogs in the management of livestock, as defined by chapter [16.57](#) RCW, by the owner of the livestock or the owner's employees or agents or other persons in lawful custody of the livestock;

(b) The use of dogs in hunting as permitted by law; or

(c) The training of animals or the use of equipment in the training of animals for any purpose not prohibited by law.

[[2015 c 235 § 3](#); [2006 c 287 § 1](#); [2005 c 481 § 3](#); [1994 c 261 § 11](#); [1982 c 114 § 9](#).]

NOTES:

Finding—Intent—1994 c 261: See note following RCW [16.52.011](#).

Site Contents

Selected content listed in alphabetical order under each group

[Let Your Voice Be Heard](#)

[Come to the Legislature](#)

[Comment on a Bill](#)

[Contact Your Legislators](#)

[Find](#)

[Bills](#)

[Committee Meeting Schedules & Agendas](#)

[District & Legislators](#)

[District & Legislators](#)

[Laws & Rules](#)

[Member Information / Rosters](#)

[Video & Audio on TVW](#)

About the Legislature

[Committees](#)

[House of Representatives](#)

[Legislative Agencies](#)

[Legislative Information Center](#)

[Legislature Home](#)

[Senate](#)

Track Legislation

[Bills](#)

[Email Updates \(GovDelivery\)](#)

[RSS Feeds](#)

[Web Services](#)

Additional Information

[Accessibility Information](#)

[Civic Education](#)

[Comments about this site](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Disclaimer](#)

[Employment Opportunities](#)

[Gift Center](#)

[Glossary of Terms](#)

[Help](#)

[History of the State Legislature](#)

[Privacy Notice](#)

[Reports to the Legislature](#)

[Search](#)

Outside the Legislature

[Congress - the Other Washington](#)

[Governor's Website](#)

[OFM Fiscal Note Website](#)

[Washington Courts](#)

Translate

Select Language ▼

Powered by [Google Translate](#)

GrabzIt