**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 16‑27‑30, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE OFFENSE OF ANIMAL FIGHTING AND BAITING AND ITS PENALTIES, SO AS TO ADD THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS, TRAIN, TRANSPORT, OR SELL AN ANIMAL WITH THE INTENT THAT THE ANIMAL BE ENGAGED IN ANIMAL FIGHTING AND BAITING.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 16‑27‑30 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 16‑27‑30. (A) It is unlawful for a ~~Any~~ person ~~who~~ to:

~~(a)~~(1) ~~owns~~ own or possess an animal for the purpose of fighting or baiting;

~~(b)~~(2) ~~is~~ be a party to or ~~causes any~~ cause fighting or baiting of any animal;

~~(c)~~(3) ~~purchases~~ purchase, ~~rents~~ rent, ~~leases~~ lease, or otherwise ~~acquires~~ acquire or ~~obtains~~ obtain the use of any structure, facility, or location for the purpose of fighting or baiting any animal; ~~or~~

~~(d)~~(4) knowingly ~~allows or~~ allow, ~~permits~~ permit, or ~~makes~~ make available any structure, facility, or location to be used for the purpose of fighting or baiting any animal; or

(5) train, transport, or sell any animal with the intent that the animal is to be engaged in fighting or baiting.

(B) A person who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, must be punished by a fine of five thousand dollars or imprisoned for five years, or both.”

SECTION 2. The repeal or amendment by this act of any law, whether temporary or permanent or civil or criminal, does not affect pending actions, rights, duties, or liabilities founded thereon, or alter, discharge, release or extinguish any penalty, forfeiture, or liability incurred under the repealed or amended law, unless the repealed or amended provision shall so expressly provide. After the effective date of this act, all laws repealed or amended by this act must be taken and treated as remaining in full force and effect for the purpose of sustaining any pending or vested right, civil action, special proceeding, criminal prosecution, or appeal existing as of the effective date of this act, and for the enforcement of rights, duties, penalties, forfeitures, and liabilities as they stood under the repealed or amended laws.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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