

## CHAPTER 31

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**CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE**

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**HOUSE BILL 15-1062**

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Melton and Lebsock, Arndt, Becker K., Court, Esgar, Garnett, Ginal, McCann, Pabon, Primavera, Rosenthal, Roupe, Singer, Williams, Winter, Young;  
also SENATOR(S) Balmer and Sonnenberg, Donovan, Grantham, Guzman, Heath, Jones, Kefalas, Kerr, Martinez Humenik, Newell, Scott, Steadman, Todd, Ulibarri.

**AN ACT****CONCERNING INCREASING THE PENALTIES FOR PERSONS WHO ENGAGE IN ANIMAL FIGHTING.**

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-9-204, **amend** (2) as follows:

**18-9-204. Animal fighting - penalty.** (2) (a) ~~Any~~ EXCEPT AS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (2), A person who violates the provisions of this section commits a class 5 felony and, in addition to the punishment provided in section 18-1.3-401, ~~may be punished by~~ THE COURT SHALL IMPOSE UPON THE PERSON a MANDATORY fine of ~~up to~~ AT LEAST one thousand dollars.

(b) ~~Any~~ A person ~~committing~~ WHO COMMITS a second or subsequent violation of this section commits a class 4 felony and, in addition to the punishment provided in section 18-1.3-401, ~~may be punished by~~ THE COURT SHALL IMPOSE UPON THE PERSON a MANDATORY fine of ~~up to~~ AT LEAST five thousand dollars.

**SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 5, 2015, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2015); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: March 18, 2015

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*Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.*