

RELEASE: House Legislation Addressing Animal Fighting Clears Senate



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New Hampshire House of Representatives

Concord, New Hampshire

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PRESS RELEASE

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HOUSE LEGISLATION ADDRESSING ANIMAL FIGHTING CLEARS SENATE

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – The New Hampshire Senate voted today to pass [HB 605](#), relative to criminal penalties for possession, transfer, or manufacture of animal fighting paraphernalia with the intent to be present at, aiding in, or contributing to such fighting. **Representative Katherine Rogers (D-Concord)**, prime sponsor of the legislation, released the following statement:

“Animal fighting is one of the most heinous forms of animal cruelty imaginable and has absolutely no place in New Hampshire. Due to inadequate laws and the ability to quickly organize animal fighting events over the internet, the criminals who lead these rings have been able to easily avoid detection from law enforcement.”

“People who engage in animal fighting are inevitably associated with other crimes, including domestic violence and other acts of violence against humans. Strengthening our animal cruelty laws will improve public safety throughout New Hampshire.”

“Animal fighting has been able to continue because current law requires offenders to be caught in the act. This legislation adds teeth to the law, providing law enforcement the tools necessary to prosecute those who participate in this heinous activity. I encourage Governor Sununu to sign this legislation immediately so we can stop the cruel practice of animal fighting in New Hampshire.”