



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 437**

February Session, 2022

Senate Bill No. 235

*Senate, April 13, 2022*

The Committee on Environment reported through SEN. COHEN of the 12th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING VETERINARY REPORTING OF DOGS USED IN ANIMAL FIGHTING.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2022*) (a) Any veterinarian  
2 licensed pursuant to chapter 384 of the general statutes who has  
3 reasonable cause to believe that a dog was injured or killed because of  
4 participation in an exhibition of animal fighting, as described in section  
5 53-247 of the general statutes, shall promptly report such belief to the  
6 local law enforcement authority of the municipality where such  
7 veterinarian thinks such exhibition occurred.
- 8 (b) Any veterinarian who makes a report pursuant to subsection (a)  
9 of this section shall not be subject to civil liability as a result of making  
10 such report.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	New section
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**ENV** Joint Favorable

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill, which requires private, third-party veterinarians to report certain findings to local law enforcement authorities, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

**The Out Years****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 235*****AN ACT CONCERNING VETERINARY REPORTING OF DOGS USED IN ANIMAL FIGHTING.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires a licensed veterinarian who has reasonable cause to believe that a dog was injured or killed from participating in an animal fighting exhibition (i.e., one for amusement or gain), to promptly report it to the local law enforcement authority of the municipality where he or she thinks the exhibition occurred. The bill exempts veterinarians who make these reports from civil liability for doing so.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 31 Nay 0 (03/29/2022)