

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 79TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 15, 2005**

**TO:** Honorable Terry Keel, Chair, House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Deputy Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2222** by Menendez (Relating to the prosecution and punishment of certain offenses prohibiting animal fighting.), **As Introduced**

<b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill would change from a Class A misdemeanor to a State Jail Felony the act of causing a dog fight and from a Class C misdemeanor to a Class A misdemeanor the act of attending as a spectator an exhibition of a dog fight. Additionally, the bill would prohibit cockfighting. Certain offenses related to cockfighting would be a State Jail Felony and others would be a Class A misdemeanor. The bill would take effect September 1, 2005 and would apply only to an offense committed on or after that date.

Any increase in the number of persons convicted of a State Jail Felony under the provisions of the bill is expected to have an insignificant fiscal impact on State Jail operations.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated from enforcement, prosecution, and punishment of persons committing the listed offenses.

**Source Agencies:**

**LBB Staff:** JOB, KJG, DLBa