



## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

# FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 164

PRINTERS NO. 787

PRIME SPONSOR: Stephens

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2014/15	FY 2015/16
General Fund	\$0	\$0

**SUMMARY:** House Bill 164 amends the Crimes Code concerning cruelty to animals. It would take effect in 60 days.

**ANALYSIS:** This legislation amends the Crimes Code section concerning cruelty to animals by adding a new subsection on possession of animal fighting paraphernalia. It stipulates that, in addition to any other penalty provided by law, a person commits a misdemeanor of the third degree if the person knowingly owns or possesses animal fighting paraphernalia. This offense would be graded as a misdemeanor of the third degree, subjecting an offender to up to one year in jail and a fine of up to \$2,500, in addition to any other penalties provided by law.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** It is not possible to predict the number of individuals who may be convicted of this offense if House Bill 164 is enacted. However, sentences of up to one year would be served in county jails, where the average cost of incarceration is \$70 per day. Therefore, the fiscal impact would occur locally, and there would be no impact on state funds.

**PREPARED BY:** Jeff Miller  
House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** March 4, 2015

*Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*