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SENATE BILL NO. 42

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled December 16, 2013

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 29.1-525.2, relating to fox and coyote enclosures; penalty.*

Patrons—Marsden, Alexander and Ebbin; Delegates: Bulova, Plum and Simon

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 29.1-525.2 as follows:

§ 29.1-525.2. Fox and coyote enclosures prohibited; penalty.

A. *It is unlawful to erect or maintain an enclosure for the purpose of pursuing, hunting, or killing or attempting to pursue, hunt, or kill any fox or coyote with a dog.*

B. *It is unlawful to pursue, hunt, or kill or attempt to pursue, hunt, or kill any fox or coyote with a dog within an enclosure erected or maintained for the purpose of pursuing, hunting, or killing or attempting to pursue, hunt, or kill any fox or coyote.*

C. *It is unlawful to (i) stage or participate in any competition or other judged event where any fox or coyote is pursued by a dog and the fox or coyote is in an enclosure or (ii) give or accept any prize, money, compensation, or other award relating to the participation in any competition or other judged event where any fox or coyote is pursued by a dog within an enclosure.*

D. *This section shall not be construed to limit any federal, state, or local law, rule, or regulation pertaining to animal cruelty or neglect.*

E. *This section shall not preclude the pursuing, hunting, or killing of any fox or coyote by a dog in the absence of an enclosure or the killing of any fox or coyote by a landowner or tenant when the fox or coyote is doing damage to domestic stock or fowl on the owned or leased land.*

F. *For the purposes of this section, "enclosure" means a fence or other barrier that is used to prevent or impede the natural egress by any fox or coyote.*

G. *Any person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. This subsection shall not be construed as limiting the authority of the Department to enforce other available penalties.*

INTRODUCED

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