

This is a translation from Spanish to English of law 2385, 2024, by which bullfighting is prohibited in Colombia.

LAW No. 2385, JULY 22, 2024

BY WHICH A CULTURAL TRANSFORMATION IS ACHIEVED BY PROHIBITING BULLFIGHTS, REJONEO, NOVILLADAS, BECERRADAS, AND TIENTAS, AS WELL AS THE PROCEDURES USED IN THESE SHOWS THAT DAMAGE THE INTEGRITY OF NON-HUMAN FORMS OF LIFE

THE CONGRESS OF COLOMBIA

DECREES:

Article 1. Purpose. The purpose of this law is to contribute to a cultural transformation based on the recognition and respect for animal life and to promote the advancement of a culture of peace by prohibiting bullfights, rejoneo, novilladas, becerradas, and tientas, as well as the procedures used in these shows that damage the integrity of non-human forms of life.

Article 2. Scope of application. The provisions contained in this law will be applicable throughout the national territory.

Article 3. Prohibition. Three years after the enactment of this law, the development of bullfights, rejoneo, novilladas, becerradas, and tientas will be prohibited throughout the national territory.

First Paragraph: In the case of activities currently included in the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (LRPCI), only the declarations on the artistic elements associated with these activities will remain valid as long as they do not involve animal abuse after the enactment of the prohibition referred to in this article.

Second Paragraph: The Ministry of Cultures, Arts, and Knowledges, in coordination with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, will regulate, within the first two months following the enactment of this law, the conditions for the development of bullfighting activities during the permitted three years, which will be based on the highest standards of animal welfare and protection.

Third Paragraph: The National Government will educate territorial entities on the conditions for the development of bullfighting activities during the permitted three years, which may authorize

these shows as long as they strictly comply with animal welfare and protection conditions, as follows:

- d) The activities mentioned in articles 1 and 3 of this law may only be carried out in places where they have been an uninterrupted manifestation of the population's tradition.
- e) The carrying out of the activities mentioned in articles 1 and 3 of this law should be limited to the specific occasions when they have usually taken place and cannot be extended to other times of the year or places different from those where it is traditionally held.
- f) Municipal and departmental authorities shall in no case allocate public funds for the construction of facilities or the financing of these activities.
- d) Territorial entities shall have the responsibility to assume an active role in the prevention and elimination of mistreatment, cruelty and violence against animals.

Paragraph Four: The prohibition described in this article does not extend to the other daily activities and practices carried out in the national farm industry, nor do they extend to other activities and practices not described in this law. Therefore, activities such as horseback riding, bull roping, corralejas, and cockfights are excluded from the prohibition.

The responsibility for verifying compliance with these conditions falls to the territorial entities. Non-compliance will result in the suspension or cancellation of the event at any time.

Article 4. Labor Reconversion. The National Government, in coordination with the Territorial Entities, will have a period of three (3) years from the entry into force of this law to guarantee effective economic and labor reconversion programs for people engaged in bullfighting activities and who demonstrate that their main income and economic sustenance derive from the activities referred to in articles 1 and 3 of this law.

The National Administrative Department of Statistics-DANE will provide technical support to the Interinstitutional Commission created in this article and the Ministry of Cultures, Arts, and Knowledges in developing instruments to create an administrative registry to determine the number of people who depend directly and exclusively on the activities referred to in this article. Likewise, it will also determine the number of people who, although not directly dependent on these activities, will benefit from their realization, will be determined.

Once the diagnostic results are known, measures necessary to facilitate the transition of people who depend on these activities to other economic and/or labor activities will be adopted.

First Paragraph: For the purposes of the provisions in this article, an Interinstitutional Commission will be created. This commission will be led by the Ministry of Labor and made up of the Ministries of the Interior, Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Cultures, Arts, and Knowledges, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, and Environment and Sustainable Development, the National Learning Service SENA, and associations of bullfighters or any union or sector organization, in charge of defining the programs required for the economic and labor reconversion of these people.

Second Paragraph: The National Government will guarantee special plans in coordination with the municipalities, aimed at people indirectly involved in the trade surrounding bullfighting shows, so that they can carry out their work within other artistic, cultural, sports, or any other type of events, under the jurisdiction of the respective territorial entity; as well as the adoption of public policy established in Law 1988 of 2019 and its regulatory rights, to benefit informal vendors or their organizations, which are part of bullfighting activities, and who are protected under the principle of legitimate trust.

Article 5. Cultural Reconversion. The National Government, in coordination with the territorial entities and respecting the principle of territorial autonomy, will have a period of one (1) year from the entry into force of the prohibition referred to in Article 3 of this law to carry out the process of reconversion of publicly owned and majority state-participated arenas used for bullfighting practices into spaces for cultural, recreational, sports, and artistic activities, prioritizing the inclusion and participation of the people mentioned in Article 4 of this law.

Paragraph: To achieve the objective of cultural reconversion effectively and sustainably, legal figures such as Public-Private and Public-Popular Partnerships may be used.

Article 6. Education in Animal Care and Protection. The Ministries of National Education and Environment and Sustainable Development, within the framework of the National Environmental Education Policy, will provide guidelines for the inclusion and integration of animal care and protection and wildlife topics in the various ecosystems of the national territory in the strategies of School Environmental Projects - PRAES, Citizen Environmental Education Projects - PROCEDAS, and Interinstitutional Environmental Education Committees - CIEDAS. Additionally, within its competencies, the Ministry of Cultures, Arts, and Knowledges will implement policies, programs, and actions aimed at promoting a civic culture around life and animal protection, gradually discouraging the prohibited practices outlined in this law by demonstrating their harms and consequences.

Article 7. Validity. This law comes into force from the date of its issuance and repeals all other provisions that are contrary to it.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HONORABLE SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC

[Signature omitted]

IVAN LEONIDAS NAME VASQUES

THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE HONORABLE SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC

[Signature omitted]

GREGORIO ELJACH PACHECO

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HONORABLE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

[Signature omitted]

ANDRES DAVID CALLE AGUAS

THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE H. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

[Signature omitted]

JAIME LUIS LACOUTURE PENALOZA