

Jon Hawkins proposes the following substitute bill:

Assault Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jon Hawkins

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill concerns an assault or threat of violence committed against a referee.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- creates an aggravating factor for an assault or a threat of violence offense committed against a referee.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

76-3-203.19, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **76-3-203.19** is enacted to read:

76-3-203.19 . Aggravating factor for an assault or threat of violence committed against a referee.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Assault" means an offense under Section 76-5-102.

(b)(i) "Referee" means an individual who is officiating, with or without compensation, a sporting event or match sanctioned and formally organized by a public or private organization, league, school, institution, or other entity.

(ii) "Referee" does not include an individual who is officiating an informal, unsanctioned sporting event or match.

(c) "Threat of violence" means an offense under Section 76-5-107.

(2) For a defendant convicted of assault or threat of violence, it is an aggravating factor if

31 the sentencing court finds that the defendant committed the offense against a referee
32 while the referee was acting within the scope of the referee's official duties.
33 (3) When sentencing a defendant convicted of assault or threat of violence subject to the
34 aggravating factor described in Subsection (2), the sentencing court shall consider the
35 aggravating factor.
36 Section 2. **Effective Date.**
37 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.