

# 3 Sub HB 226: Criminal Amendments

Rep. Pierucci

## WHAT THE BILL DOES:

- Increases the maximum penalty for Class A misdemeanors that are crimes against persons, **which include offenses such as assault and sexual abuse of a minor**, from 364 to 365 days. **Applicable offenses also include DUI.**
- Requires local law enforcement to refer **illegal immigrants who are convicted of one of these offenses** to ICE for deportation
- Directs judges to consider illegal immigrants and asylum seekers as flight risks in sentencing
- Imposes a **civil penalty and fine of \$10,000 on non-profits who knowingly transport illegal immigrants** into Utah.
- Requires courts to **collect and report an inmate's immigration status** to federal authorities.

## THE FACTS

- Illegal immigrants make up an estimated **4.6% of Utah's prison population**, costing the state nearly **\$16 million per year.**
- **The majority of crimes** committed by illegal immigrants who are in prison **are sex offenses and murder.**
- On the Jordan River Trail, **more than half of all drug-related felony offenses this year** have been committed by illegal immigrants.
- In 2024, Utah law enforcement identified the presence of **Tren de Aragua**, a Venezuelan criminal gang involved in **violent crimes, including sextortion, drug distribution, and attempted homicide.** The group **smuggles members across the southwest border** and poses a growing threat to public safety in Utah.