1	PROTECTION OF SPORTS OFFICIALS FROM
2	VIOLENT ABUSE
3	2001 GENERAL SESSION
4	STATE OF UTAH
5	Sponsor: David L. Hogue
6	This act modifies the Criminal Code by providing a specific criminal penalty for committing
7	an assault against a sports official and provides related definitions.
8	This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:
9	ENACTS:
10	<b>76-5-102.9</b> , Utah Code Annotated 1953
11	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
12	Section 1. Section <b>76-5-102.9</b> is enacted to read:
13	76-5-102.9. Assault against a sports official.
14	(1) As used in this section:
15	(a) "Sports event" means:
16	(i) any interscholastic or intramural athletic activity in a primary or middle school, junior
17	high or high school, college, or university;
18	(ii) any organized athletic activity sponsored by a community, business, or nonprofit
19	organization;
20	(iii) any athletic activity that is a professional or semiprofessional event; or
21	(iv) any other organized and lawful athletic activity in the state.
22	(b) "Sports official" means a person at a sports event who:
23	(i) serves as a referee, umpire, linesperson, timekeeper, coach, or any person who serves
24	in a similar capacity but who may be known by other titles, and is a member of or is registered with
25	a local, state, regional, or national organization that is engaged in providing education and training
26	for sports officiating; or
27	(ii) supervises the participants, such as a coach, trainer, team attendant, game manager,



28	athletic director, assistant athletic director, president, dean, headmaster, principal, or assistant
29	principal of a school, college, or university.
30	(2) Any person who assaults a sports official is guilty of a class A misdemeanor if:
31	(a) <b>h</b> (i) <b>h</b> the assault is committed against a sports official immediately prior to, during, or
31a	ĥ <u>IMMEDIATELY</u> ĥ <u>after</u>
32	a sports event during which the victim is acting as a sports official;
33	<b>h</b> [(b)] (ii) h the person knew or reasonably should have known that the victim was acting as
	<u>a</u>
34	sports official; h [and] h
35	$\hat{\mathbf{h}}$ [ $\frac{(c)}{(iii)}$ $\hat{\mathbf{h}}$ the assault is an act not subject to a greater penalty under another provision of
35a	state law $\hat{\mathbf{h}}$ [=]; AND
35b	(iv) THE ASSAULT IS COMMITTED BY A PERSON WHO WAS ATTENDING, PARTICIPATING
35c	IN, OR INVOLVED IN THE EVENT; OR

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OFFICIAL AS A PART OF HIS DUTIES. Î

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A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

(b) THE ASSAULT IS COMMITTED IN RETALIATION FOR ANYTHING DONE BY THE SPORTS

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

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