

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 657

Introduced by Andersen, 49; Clouse, 37; DeKay, 40; Holdcroft, 36; Kauth,
31; Sanders, 45; Sorrentino, 39.

Read first time January 22, 2025

Committee: Judiciary

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; to amend section
- 2 28-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to create the
- 3 offense of assault on a sports official; to provide a penalty; to
- 4 harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original section.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 **Section 1.** Section 28-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2 2024, is amended to read:

3 28-101 Sections 28-101 to 28-1357, 28-1601 to 28-1603, and 28-1701
4 and section 2 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska
5 Criminal Code.

6 **Sec. 2.** (1) For purposes of this section:

7 (a) Athletic contest means any interscholastic, intercollegiate, or
8 any other organized amateur or professional athletic contest; and

9 (b) Sports official means any individual who:

10 (i) Serves as a referee, umpire, or linesman or who serves in a
11 similar capacity but is known by a different title or name; and

12 (ii) Is duly registered by, or a member of, a local, state,
13 regional, or national organization engaged in part in providing education
14 and training to sports officials.

15 (2) A person commits the offense of assault on a sports official if
16 such person:

17 (a) Intentionally or knowingly causes bodily injury to a sports
18 official;

19 (b) Such offense is committed immediately prior to, during, or
20 immediately following an athletic contest in which the sports official is
21 participating; and

22 (c) The person who commits the offense knows or reasonably should
23 know that the victim is a sports official.

24 (3) A violation of this section is a Class IV felony.

25 **Sec. 3.** Original section 28-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative
26 Supplement, 2024, is repealed.