



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 618**

January Session, 2005

Substitute House Bill No. 5222

*House of Representatives, May 2, 2005*

The Committee on Judiciary reported through REP. LAWLOR of the 99th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING THE ASSAULT OF A SPORTS OFFICIAL.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) (a) For the purposes of  
2 this section, "sports official" means any person who officiates or  
3 enforces the rules at an amateur sporting or athletic event including,  
4 but not limited to, an umpire, referee, judge, timekeeper and scorer.

5 (b) A person is guilty of assault of a sports official when such  
6 person, with intent to intimidate or harass, or to retaliate against,  
7 another person on account of the performance by such other person of  
8 such other person's duties as a sports official, causes physical injury to  
9 such other person.

10 (c) Assault of a sports official is a class D felony.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	New section
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**JUD**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 06 \$	FY 07 \$
Judicial Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal
Judicial Department (Probation); Correction, Dept.	GF - Cost	Potential	Potential

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill establishes a crime of assault of a sports official. Under the bill, an offender would be subject to a fine of up to \$5,000, five years in prison, or both. To the extent that this change increase the likelihood that offenders would be prosecuted or receive harsher penalties for assault, a potential revenue gain from criminal fines and potential cost for incarceration and/or probation supervision in the community exist. It is anticipated that relatively few fines would be imposed on an annual basis, and, consequently, any revenue gain under the bill is expected to be minimal. On average, it costs the state \$2,150 to supervise an offender on probation in the community as compared to \$35,040 to incarcerate the offender (note that both figures include fringe benefits).

**OLR Bill Analysis**

sHB 5222

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ASSAULT OF A SPORTS OFFICIAL**

**SUMMARY:**

This bill creates the crime of assault of a sports official. A person commits this crime if he:

1. causes physical injury to a sports official and
2. intends to intimidate, harass, or retaliate against the sports official because of his duties as a sports official.

Under the bill, a sports official is someone who officiates or enforces rules at an amateur sporting or athletic event including umpires, referees, judges, timekeepers, and scorers.

The bill makes this crime a class D felony punishable by one to five years in prison, a fine of up to \$5,000, or both.

Under current law, there are a number of different assault crimes with penalties ranging from a class A misdemeanor to a class B felony depending on the severity of the harm and the circumstances of the crime.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2005

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 40      Nay 0