

UTAH ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACT

2011 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stephen E. Sandstrom

Senate Sponsor: Margaret Dayton

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LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies state law and enacts "The Illegal Immigration Enforcement Act."

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- requires that an officer verify the immigration status of a person arrested for a felony or a class A misdemeanor and a person booked for class B or C misdemeanors and requires that an officer attempt to verify immigration status for a

28 person detained for a class B or C misdemeanor;

29 ▶ provides enforcement exceptions regarding an officer's verifying immigration
30 status;

31 ▶ clarifies when passengers in a vehicle where the operator has been detained may
32 also be questioned and their immigration status verified;

33 ▶ requires that a law enforcement officer may not consider race, color, or national
34 origin, except as permitted by Utah and United States constitutions;

35 ▶ states grounds for a presumption of a person's lawful presence in the United States;

36 ▶ provides for transportation of an illegal alien to federal custody by a state or local
37 law enforcement officer;

38 ▶ provides that a state or local agency may not limit by ordinance, regulation, or
39 policy the authority of any law enforcement or other governmental agency to assist
40 the federal government in the enforcement of any federal immigration law,
41 including the federal requirement to register as an alien or possess an alien
42 registration document;

43 ▶ provides that any state or local governmental agency is not restricted in sending,
44 receiving, or maintaining immigration status information of any person in carrying
45 out the agency's lawful purposes;

46 ▶ requires verification of immigration status regarding application for public services
47 or benefits provided by a state or local governmental agency or subcontractor,
48 except as exempted by federal law;

49 ▶ provides that this bill does not implement or authorize the federal REAL ID Act to
50 any extent not currently provided by state law;

51 ▶ amends the current state law prohibiting transporting or harboring illegal aliens by
52 removing the limitation to transportation of the alien for a distance greater than 100
53 miles;

54 ▶ prohibits the encouraging or inducing of an illegal alien to come to or reside in
55 Utah; and

56 ▶ amends peace officer arrest authority to include making an arrest when the officer
57 has reasonable cause to believe the person is an alien:
58 • subject to an immigration removal order; and
59 • regarding whom a detainer warrant has been issued who has committed or been
60 charged with a felony in another state.

61 Money Appropriated in this Bill:

62 None

63 Other Special Clauses:

64 This bill coordinates with S.B. 288, Utah Immigration Enforcement Amendments, by
65 providing substantive amendments.

66 Utah Code Sections Affected:

67 AMENDS:

68 **76-10-2901**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 26

69 **77-7-2**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 293

70 ENACTS:

71 **76-9-1001**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

72 **76-9-1002**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

73 **76-9-1003**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

74 **76-9-1004**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

75 **76-9-1005**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

76 **76-9-1006**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

77 **76-9-1007**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

78 **76-9-1008**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

79 **76-9-1009**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

80 Utah Code Sections Affected by Coordination Clause:

81 **76-9-1001**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

82 **76-9-1002**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

83 **76-9-1003**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

84 **76-9-1004**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
85 **76-9-1005**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
86 **76-10-2901**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 26
87 **77-7-2**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 293

88

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

90 Section 1. Section **76-9-1001** is enacted to read:

91 **Part 10. The Illegal Immigration Enforcement Act**

92 **76-9-1001. Title.**

93 This part is known as "The Illegal Immigration Enforcement Act."

94 Section 2. Section **76-9-1002** is enacted to read:

95 **76-9-1002. Definitions.**

96 As used in this part:

97 (1) "Alien" means a person who is not a citizen or national of the United States.

98 (2) "ICE" means the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency of the

99 United States Department of Homeland Security.

100 (3) "Law enforcement officer" has the same meaning as in Section 53-13-103.

101 (4) "SAVE program" means the federal Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements
102 program operated by the federal Department of Homeland Security.

103 (5) "State or local governmental agency" includes any private contractor or vendor that
104 contracts with the agency to provide the agency's functions or services.

105 (6) "Verify immigration status" or "verification of immigration status" means the
106 determination of a person's immigration status by:

107 (a) a law enforcement officer who is authorized by a federal agency to determine an
108 alien's immigration status; or

109 (b) the United States Department of Homeland Security, ICE, or other federal agency
110 authorized to provide immigration status as provided by 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1373(c).

111 Section 3. Section **76-9-1003** is enacted to read:

76-9-1003. Detention or arrest -- Determination of immigration status.

(1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), (c), or (d), any law enforcement officer who, acting in the enforcement of any state law or local ordinance, conducts any lawful stop, detention, or arrest of a person as specified in Subsection (1)(a)(i) or (ii), and the person is unable to provide to the law enforcement officer a document listed in Subsection 76-9-1004(1) and the officer is otherwise unable to verify the identity of the person, the officer:

(i) shall request verification of the citizenship or the immigration status of the person under 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1373(c), except as allowed under Subsection (1)(b), (c), or (d), if the person is arrested for an alleged offense that is a class A misdemeanor or a felony; and

(ii) may attempt to verify the immigration status of the person, except as exempted under Subsection (1)(b), (c), or (d), if the alleged offense is a class B or C misdemeanor, except that if the person is arrested and booked for a class B or C misdemeanor, the arresting law enforcement officer or the law enforcement agency booking the person shall attempt to verify the immigration status of the person.

(b) In individual cases, the law enforcement officer may forego the verification of immigration status under Subsection (1)(a) if the determination could hinder or obstruct a criminal investigation.

(c) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply to a law enforcement officer who is acting as a school resource officer for any elementary or secondary school.

(d) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply to a county or municipality when it has only one law enforcement officer on duty and response support from another law enforcement agency is not available.

(2) When a law enforcement officer makes a lawful stop, detention, or arrest under Subsection (1) of the operator of a vehicle, and while investigating or processing the primary offense, the officer makes observations that give the officer reasonable suspicion that the operator or any of the passengers in the vehicle are violating Section 76-5-309, 76-5-310, or 76-10-2901, which concern smuggling and transporting illegal aliens, the officer shall, to the extent possible within a reasonable period of time:

140 (a) detain the occupants of the vehicle to investigate the suspected violations; and

141 (b) inquire regarding the immigration status of the occupants of the vehicle.

142 (3) When a person under Subsection (1) is arrested or booked into a jail, juvenile
143 detention facility, or correctional facility, the arresting officer or the booking officer shall
144 ensure that a request for verification of immigration status of the arrested or booked person is
145 submitted as promptly as is reasonably possible.

146 (4) The law enforcement agency that has custody of a person verified to be an illegal
147 alien shall request that the United States Department of Homeland Security issue a detainer
148 requesting transfer of the illegal alien into federal custody.

149 (5) A law enforcement officer may not consider race, color, or national origin in
150 implementing this section, except to the extent permitted by the constitutions of the United
151 States and this state.

152 Section 4. Section **76-9-1004** is enacted to read:

153 **76-9-1004. Grounds for presumption of lawful presence in United States --**
154 **Statement to officer.**

155 (1) A person is presumed to be lawfully present in the United States for the purposes of
156 this part if the person provides one of the following documents to the law enforcement officer,
157 unless the law enforcement officer has a reasonable suspicion that the document is false or
158 identifies a person other than the person providing the document:

159 (a) a valid Utah driver license issued on or after January 1, 2010;

160 (b) a valid Utah identification card issued under Section 53-3-804 and issued on or
161 after January 1, 2010;

162 (c) a valid tribal enrollment card or other valid form of tribal membership identification
163 that includes photo identification; or

164 (d) a valid identification document that:

165 (i) includes a photo or biometric identifier of the holder of the document; and

166 (ii) is issued by a federal, state, or local governmental agency that requires proof or
167 verification of legal presence in the United States as a condition of issuance of the document.

168 (2) A person is presumed to be a citizen or national of the United States for purposes of
169 this part if the person makes a statement or affirmation to the law enforcement officer that the
170 person is a United States citizen or national, unless the officer has a reasonable suspicion that
171 the statement or affirmation is false.

172 Section 5. Section **76-9-1005** is enacted to read:

173 **76-9-1005. Illegal alien -- Notification of federal government -- Transportation to**
174 **federal facility.**

175 A state or local law enforcement agency may securely transport an alien who is in the
176 agency's custody and whom the agency has verified is unlawfully present in the United States
177 to a federal detention facility in this state or, with the concurrence of the receiving federal
178 agency, to a federal facility or other point of transfer to federal custody that is outside this state.

179 Section 6. Section **76-9-1006** is enacted to read:

180 **76-9-1006. Enforcement of federal immigration laws.**

181 A state or local governmental agency of this state, or any representative of the agency,
182 may not:

183 (1) limit or restrict by ordinance, regulation, or policy the authority of any law
184 enforcement agency or other governmental agency to assist the federal government in the
185 enforcement of any federal law or regulation governing immigration; or

186 (2) limit or restrict by ordinance, regulation, or policy the authority of any law
187 enforcement agency to investigate or enforce any violation of the federal misdemeanor offenses
188 of willful failure to register as an alien or willful failure to personally possess an alien
189 registration document as required by 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1304(e) or 1306(a).

190 Section 7. Section **76-9-1007** is enacted to read:

191 **76-9-1007. Determining an alien's immigration status -- Transfer or maintenance**
192 **of information.**

193 (1) Except as limited by federal law, any state or local governmental agency is not
194 restricted or prohibited in any way from sending, receiving, or maintaining information related
195 to the lawful or unlawful immigration status of any person by communicating with any federal,

state, or local governmental entity for any lawful purpose, including:

(a) determining a person's eligibility for any public benefit, service, or license provided by any federal agency, by this state, or by any political subdivision of this state;

(b) confirming a person's claim of residence or domicile if determination is required by state law or a judicial order issued pursuant to a civil or criminal proceeding in this state;

(c) if the person is an alien, determining if the person is in compliance with the federal registration laws of Title II, Part 7, Immigration and Nationality Act; or

(d) a valid request for verification of the citizenship or immigration status of any person pursuant to 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1373.

(2) This section does not implement, authorize, or establish the federal REAL ID Act of 2005, P.L. 109-13, Division B; 119 Stat. 302, except as provided by Section 53-3-104.5, regarding limitations on the state implementation of the federal REAL ID Act.

Section 8. Section **76-9-1008** is enacted to read:

76-9-1008. Proof of immigration status to receive public benefits.

(1) (a) An agency that provides state or local public benefits as defined in 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1621 shall comply with Section 63G-11-104 and shall also comply with this section, except:

(i) as provided in Subsection 63G-11-104(4)(g) or (k); or

(ii) when compliance is exempted by federal law or when compliance could reasonably be expected to be grounds for the federal government to withhold federal Medicaid funding.

(b) The agency shall verify a person's lawful presence in the United States by requiring that the applicant under this section sign a certificate under penalty of perjury, stating that the applicant:

(i) is a United States citizen; or

(ii) is a qualified alien as defined by 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1641.

(c) The certificate under Subsection (1)(b) shall include a statement advising the signer that providing false information subjects the signer to penalties for perjury.

(d) The signature under this Subsection (1) may be executed in person or electronically.

(e) When an applicant who is a qualified alien has executed the certificate under this section, the applicant's eligibility for benefits shall be verified by the agency through the federal SAVE program or an equivalent program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security.

(2) Any person who knowingly and willfully makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement of representation in a certificate executed under this section is guilty of public assistance fraud under Section 76-8-1205.

(3) If the certificate constitutes a false claim of United States citizenship under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 911, the agency requiring the certificate shall file a complaint with the United States Attorney for the applicable federal judicial district based upon the venue in which the certificate was executed.

(4) Agencies may, with the concurrence of the Utah Attorney General, adopt variations to the requirements of the provisions of this section that provide for adjudication of unique individual circumstances where the verification procedures in this section would impose unusual hardship on a legal resident of this state.

(5) If an agency under Subsection (1) receives verification that a person making an application for any benefit, service, or license is not a qualified alien, the agency shall provide the information to the local law enforcement agency for enforcement of Section 76-8-1205 unless prohibited by federal mandate.

Section 9. Section **76-9-1009** is enacted to read:

76-9-1009. Implementation to be consistent with federal law and civil rights.

All state and local agencies shall implement this part in a manner that is consistent with federal laws that regulate immigration, protect the civil rights of all persons, and establish the privileges and immunities of United States citizens.

Section 10. Section **76-10-2901** is amended to read:

76-10-2901. Transporting or harboring aliens -- Definition -- Penalties.

(1) ~~[For purposes of]~~ As used in this part, "alien" means an individual who is illegally present in the United States.

(2) It is unlawful for a person to:

(a) transport, move, or attempt to transport into this state [~~or for a distance of greater than 100 miles~~] or within the state an alien for commercial advantage or private financial gain, knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that the alien is in the United States in violation of federal law, in furtherance of the illegal presence of the alien in the United States; [~~or~~]

(b) knowingly, with the intent to violate federal immigration law, conceal, harbor, or shelter from detection an alien in a place within this state, including a building or means of transportation for commercial advantage or private financial gain, knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that the alien is in the United States in violation of federal law[~~;~~];

(c) encourage or induce an alien to come to, enter, or reside in this state, knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that the alien's coming to, entry, or residence is or will be in violation of law; or

(d) engage in any conspiracy, for commercial advantage or private financial gain, to commit any of the offenses listed in this Subsection (2).

(3) (a) A person who violates Subsection (2)(a), (c), or (d) is guilty of a third degree felony.

(b) A person who violates Subsection (2)(b) is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

(4) Nothing in this part prohibits or restricts the provision of:

(a) a state or local public benefit described in 8 U.S.C.[~~Section~~] Sec. 1621(b); or

(b) charitable or humanitarian assistance, including medical care, housing, counseling, food, victim assistance, religious services and sacraments, and transportation to and from a location where the assistance is provided, by a charitable, educational, or religious organization or its employees, agents, or volunteers, using private funds.

(5) (a) It is not a violation of this part for a religious denomination or organization or an agent, officer, or member of a religious denomination or organization to encourage, invite, call, allow, or enable an alien to perform the vocation of a minister or missionary for the denomination or organization in the United States as a volunteer who is not compensated as an employee, notwithstanding the provision of room, board, travel, medical assistance, and other

basic living expenses.

(b) Subsection (5)(a) applies only to an alien who has been a member of the religious denomination or organization for at least one year.

Section 11. Section **77-7-2** is amended to read:

77-7-2. Arrest by peace officers.

A peace officer may make an arrest under authority of a warrant or may, without warrant, arrest a person:

(1) (a) for any public offense committed or attempted in the presence of any peace officer; and

(b) as used in this Subsection (1), "presence" includes all of the physical senses or any device that enhances the acuity, sensitivity, or range of any physical sense, or records the observations of any of the physical senses;

(2) when the peace officer has reasonable cause to believe a felony or a class A misdemeanor has been committed and has reasonable cause to believe that the person arrested has committed it;

(3) when the peace officer has reasonable cause to believe the person has committed a public offense, and there is reasonable cause for believing the person may:

(a) flee or conceal himself to avoid arrest;

(b) destroy or conceal evidence of the commission of the offense; or

(c) injure another person or damage property belonging to another person; ~~or~~

(4) when the peace officer has reasonable cause to believe the person has committed the offense of failure to disclose identity under Section 76-8-301.5[:]; or

(5) when the peace officer has reasonable cause to believe that the person is an alien:

(a) subject to a civil removal order issued by an immigration judge;

(b) regarding whom a civil detainer warrant has been issued by the federal Department of Homeland Security; or

(c) who has been charged or convicted in another state with one or more aggravated felonies as defined by 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1101(a)(43).

308 Section 12. **Coordinating H.B. 497 with S.B. 288 -- Substantive amendments.**
309 If this H.B. 497 and S.B. 288, Utah Immigration Enforcement Amendments, both pass,
310 it is the intent of the Legislature that:
311 (1) Sections 76-9-1001 through 76-9-1005 in this H.B. 497 supersede Sections
312 76-9-1001 through 76-9-1005 in S.B. 288;
313 (2) Subsection 76-10-2901(3)(a) in H.B. 497 supersedes Subsection 76-10-2901(3)(a)
314 in S.B. 288; and
315 (3) Subsection 77-7-2(5)(d) in S.B. 288 supersedes Subsection 77-7-2(5)(d) in H.B.
316 497.