



S2047 | H7198

364 BILL

This act would further delineate the definitions of felony, misdemeanor and petty misdemeanor. Most importantly, it would **shorten misdemeanor sentences from 365 days to 364 days** to prevent offenders from being deported for petty crimes.

Supporting organizations:

- ACLU Of Rhode Island
- Rhode Island Working Families Party
- The Rhode Island Public Defender's Office (RIPD)
- RI Immigrant Coalition
- AMOR

Important to Note:

- This bill was the first to pass by a supermajority in the Senate last legislative session.
- The AG has taken no position on the matter for this legislative session.
- Eliminates \$1,000 fine for any felony

While this option has not been legally codified, it has been **repeatedly practiced** in courts across Rhode Island in the form of a plea deal. Judges and attorney will attempt to avoid the unintentional overlap between immigration and criminal law by going with a 364 day punishment, but people are still blocked from reentry because the crime was punishable up to a year. Passing this law would protect members of our community and honor the intention of judges across the state.

