

The short, posterior sacro-iliac ligament is superficial to the interosseous sacro-iliac ligament from which it is separated by the dorsal rami of the sacral spinal nerves and vessels in the upper part of the cleft behind the sacro-iliac joint. The upper part arises from the intermediate sacral crest, with the lower part arising from the lateral crest. It inserts onto the posterior superior iliac spine and inner lip of the dorsal part of the iliac crest. The fibers are disposed to resist forward movement of the sacral promontory.

The ligaments are often partially divided into cranial and caudal parts. The cranial part joins the superior articular processes and lateral crests of the first and second sacral vertebrae to the ilium, and is referred to as the 'short posterior (dorsal) iliac ligament'.