

SENATE NO. 996

AN ACT RELEVANT TO PEACEFUL FUNERAL SERVICES

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled,
And by the authority of the same, as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 42A, of Chapter 272 of the Mass General Laws, as appearing in the 2002
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section;-
3 Whoever pickets, loiters or otherwise creates a disturbance within five hundred feet of a funeral home,
4 church, temple, cemetery, or mortuary shall be punished by fine of not more than one thousand dollars
5 or by imprisonment for not more than one year in a house of correction or both.
- 6 Definitions:
- 7 1. "Funeral", for the purpose of this section means, the ceremonies, processions and memorial
8 services held in connection with the burial or cremation of the dead; and
 - 9 2. "Pickets", for the purpose of this section, means protest activities engaged in by a person or
10 persons within five hundred (500) feet of a funeral home, church, temple, cemetery, or mortuary
11 within one hour prior to, during and two (2) hours following the funeral.