

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 678

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit desecration of Veterans' memorials.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 1999

Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Mr. KING, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. HORN, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. FILNER, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. FROST, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. BALDACCI, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. JOHN, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. LAMPSON, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. VENTO, Mr. WYNN, and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit desecration of Veterans' memorials.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Memorials
5 Protection Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. DESECRATION OF VETERANS' MEMORIALS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 65 of title 18, United
3 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-
4 ing:

5 **“§ 1368. Desecration of veterans’ memorials**

6 “(a) Whoever, in a circumstance described in sub-
7 section (b), willfully injures or commits any depredation
8 against any structure, plaque, statue, or other monument
9 on public property commemorating the service of any per-
10 son or persons in the armed forces of the United States,
11 shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than
12 10 years, or both, but if the damage or attempted damage
13 does not exceed the sum of \$1,000, the defendant shall
14 be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than one
15 year, or both.

16 “(b) The circumstance referred to in subsection (a)
17 is that in committing the offense, the defendant travels
18 or causes another to travel in interstate or foreign com-
19 merce, or uses the mail or an instrumentality of interstate
20 or foreign commerce.”.

21 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
22 at the beginning of chapter 65 of title 18, United States
23 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“1368. Desecration of veterans’ memorials.”.

