

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 578
93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety, February 8, 2006, with recommendation that the House Committee Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 578 Do Pass. Referred to the Committee on Rules pursuant to Rule 25(26)(f).

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

3256L.05C

AN ACT

To amend chapter 578, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to protest activities near funeral services, with penalty provisions and an emergency clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 578, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 578.501, to read as follows:

- 578.501. 1. This section shall be known as "Spc. Edward Lee Myers' Law".**
- 2. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in picketing or other protest activities within three hundred feet of any church, cemetery, or funeral establishment, as defined by section 333.011, RSMo, within one hour prior to the commencement of any funeral, and until one hour following the cessation of any funeral. Each day on which a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense. Violation of this section is a class B misdemeanor, unless committed by a person who has previously pled guilty to or been found guilty of a violation of this section, in which case the violation is a class A misdemeanor.**
- 3. For the purposes of this section, "funeral" means the ceremonies, processions and memorial services held in connection with the burial or cremation of the dead.**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

Section B. Because immediate action is necessary to protect the emotional well-being
2 of persons paying respects to the deceased, section A of this act is deemed necessary for the
3 immediate preservation of the public health, welfare, peace and safety, and is hereby declared
4 to be an emergency act within the meaning of the constitution, and section A of this act shall be
5 in full force and effect upon its passage and approval.

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