125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

An Act Relating to Disorderly Conduct in the Vicinity of a Funeral

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

Heath J.R. Priest

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative CELLI of Brewer.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BLACK of Wilton, CRAFTS of Lisbon, DAVIS of Sangerville, FREDETTE of Newport, LONG of Sherman, SANDERSON of Chelsea.

1   **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2   **Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §501-A, sub-§1, ¶D,** as enacted by PL 2007, c. 144, §3, is
3   amended to read:

4   D. In a private or public place ~~on or near property~~ within 1,000 feet of where a
5   funeral, burial or memorial service is being held or within 1,000 feet of the route
6   between locations where such ceremonies are being held, the person knowingly
7   accosts, insults, taunts or challenges any person in mourning and in attendance at the
8   funeral, burial or memorial service with unwanted, obtrusive communications by way
9   of offensive, derisive or annoying words, or by gestures or other physical conduct,
10   that would in fact have a direct tendency to cause a violent response by an ordinary
11   person in mourning and in attendance at a funeral, burial or memorial service.

12   **Sec. 2. 17-A MRSA §501-A, sub-§3,** as enacted by PL 2007, c. 144, §3, is
13   amended to read:

14   **3.** Disorderly conduct is a Class E crime, except that violation of subsection 1,
15   paragraph D is a Class D crime.

16   **SUMMARY**

17   This bill prohibits disorderly conduct within 1,000 feet of a funeral, burial or
18   memorial service or within 1,000 feet of the route between locations where such
19   ceremonies are being held. The bill also increases the crime of disorderly conduct with
20   regard to a funeral, burial or memorial service from a Class E to a Class D crime.