

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1270**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Bruce J. Ayers**

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing a mandatory sentence for destruction, defacement or damage to burial tombs and grave markers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Bruce J. Ayers	1st Norfolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION

SEE HOUSE, NO. 1310 OF 2007-2008.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

---

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

---

### AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MANDATORY SENTENCE FOR DESTRUCTION, DEFACEMENT OR DAMAGE TO BURIAL TOMBS AND GRAVE MARKERS.

*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 73 of Chapter 272 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby  
2 amended by inserting after the word “not”, as appearing in line 12, the following new text:—“less than one thousand  
3 dollars and not”.

4 SECTION 2. Section 73 of Chapter 272 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby  
5 amended by adding at the end thereof the following text:—  
6 “The sentence imposed under this section shall not be reduced to less than 6 months, nor suspended, nor shall any  
7 person convicted under this section be eligible for probation, parole or furlough or receive any deduction from his  
8 sentence for good conduct until he shall have served no less than 6 months of such sentence. Prosecutions  
9 commenced under this section shall neither be continued without a finding nor placed on file. The provisions of  
10 section 87-seven of chapter 276 shall not apply to a person charged with a violation of this section.”