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H.21

Introduced by Representatives Webb of Shelburne and Brumsted of Shelburne

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Crimes and criminal procedure; breach of the peace, disturbances;
displaying an individual

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to prohibit so-called freak shows and the display of individuals for money.

An act relating to prohibiting the display of individuals for money

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. chapter 19 subchapter 8 is added to read:

Subchapter 8. Displaying an Individual

§ 1081. DISPLAYING AN INDIVIDUAL

(a) A person is guilty of displaying an individual if he or she:

(1) displays or exhibits an individual to be viewed by members of the public;

(2) in exchange for money, profit, pecuniary interest, or anything of value; and

(3) the display or exhibition primarily appeals to, or is intended to primarily appeal to, the prurient, shameful, or morbid interests of the viewers.

1 (b) This section shall not apply to the display or exhibition of an individual:

2 (1) for medical or scientific purposes; or

3 (2) as part of a play, movie, theatrical act, or other activity that is
4 primarily for artistic or political purposes.

5 (c) A person who is convicted of displaying an individual shall be
6 imprisoned for not more than 60 days or fined not more than \$500.00, or both.

7 A person who is convicted of a second or subsequent offense under this section
8 shall be imprisoned for not more than 120 days or fined not more than
9 \$1,000.00, or both.

10 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.