

1 H.654

2 Introduced by Representatives Canfield of Fair Haven, Branagan of Georgia,
3 Browning of Arlington, Dickinson of St. Albans Town,
4 Donaghy of Poultney, Hebert of Vernon, Helm of Fair Haven,
5 Larocque of Barnet, Lewis of Derby, McNeil of Rutland Town,
6 Olsen of Jamaica, Shaw of Pittsford and Turner of Milton

7 Referred to Committee on

8 Date:

9 Subject: Crimes and criminal procedure; trespass and malicious injuries to
10 property; disturbing a funeral service

11 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to prohibit picketing within 900 feet
12 of a funeral service.

13 An act relating to disturbing a funeral service

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

15 Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 3771 is amended to read:

16 § 3771. DISTURBING A FUNERAL SERVICE

17 (a) As used in this section:

18 (1) "Funeral service" means the ceremonies, rituals, and memorial
19 services held at a church, mortuary, cemetery, or home in connection with the
20 burial or cremation of a dead person.

1 (2) "Picketing" means a protest, demonstration, or other similar activity
2 directed at a funeral service.

3 (b) No person shall disturb or attempt to disturb a funeral service by
4 engaging in picketing within ~~400~~ 900 feet of the service within one hour prior
5 to and two hours following the publicly announced time of the commencement
6 of the service.

7 (c) A person who violates this section shall be imprisoned not more than 30
8 days or fined not more than ~~\$500.00~~ \$750.00, or both.