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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2011

ENROLLED

FOR House Bill No. 3144

(By Delegates Butcher, Paxton, Manchin, Stowers, Hall, R. Phillips, L. Phillips, Longstreth, laquinta, Rodighiero and Perdue)

Passed March 12, 2011

In Effect Ninety Days From Passage

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COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

H. B. 3144

(By Delegates Butcher, Paxton, Manchin, Stowers, Hall, R. Phillips, L. Phillips, Longstreth, Iaquinta, Rodighiero and Perdue)

[Passed March 12, 2011; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §61-8-15, relating to creating a criminal offense and adding misdemeanor criminal penalties for picketing or disrupting funerals or memorial services.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §61-8-15, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 8. CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY, MORALITY AND DECENCY.

§61-8-15. Prohibition on certain demonstrations at funerals.

- 1 (a) No person may carry out, with respect to any
- 2 cemetery or building at which a funeral or memorial service
- 3 or ceremony is to be held, a demonstration within 500 feet of
- 4 the cemetery or building that:
- 5 (1) Is conducted during the period beginning 60 minutes
- 6 before and ending 60 minutes after the funeral or memorial
- 7 service or ceremony is held; and
- 8 (2) Includes, as a part of such demonstration, any
- 9 individual willfully making or assisting in the making of any
- 10 noise or diversion that disturbs or tends to disturb the peace
- 11 or good order of the funeral or memorial service or
- 12 ceremony.
- (b) For purposes of this section, the term "demonstration"
- 14 includes the following:
- 15 (1) Any picketing or similar conduct.
- 16 (2) Any oration, speech, use of sound amplification
- 17 equipment or device, or similar conduct before an assembled
- 18 group of people that is not part of a funeral or memorial
- 19 service or ceremony.
- 20 (3) The display of any placard, banner, flag, or similar
- 21 device, unless such a display is part of a funeral or memorial
- 22 service or ceremony.
- 23 (4) The distribution of any handbill, pamphlet, leaflet, or
- 24 other written or printed matter other than a program
- 25 distributed as part of a funeral or memorial service or
- 26 ceremony.

Chairman, House Committee

Originating in the House. To take effect ninety days from passage. Clerk of the Senate Speaker of the House of De the Senate this the 1 The within waspulle 2011.

PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

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