

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

HOUSE BILL 2593

By: Nance

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to crimes and punishments; amending 21 O.S. 2001, Section 1166, which relates to disturbing funerals; modifying penalty; prohibiting certain conduct; providing penalty; defining terms; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2001, Section 1166, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1166. A. Every person who willfully disturbs, interrupts or disquiets any assemblage of people met for the purpose of any funeral, or who, without authority of law, obstructs or detains any persons engaged in carrying or accompanying any dead body of a human being to a place of burial, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than thirty (30) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in picketing within two thousand (2,000) feet of any cemetery, church, or mortuary within one (1) hour prior to, during, or two (2) hours following the commencement of a funeral. Any person convicted of a violation of this subsection shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than ninety (90) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

C. As used in this section:

1. "Funeral" means the ceremonies, processions, and memorial services held in connection with the burial or cremation of the dead; and

2. "Picketing" means protest activities engaged in by a person or persons within two thousand (2,000) feet of a cemetery, church, or mortuary within one (1) hour prior to, during, or two (2) hours following the commencement of a funeral.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2006.

50-2-7975            GRS            12/05/05