

Senate Engrossed House Bill

~~disturbing religious services; worship~~
(now: interfering with religious service)

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

HOUSE BILL 4117

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 13, CHAPTER 29, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 13-2925; RELATING TO OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC ORDER.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 13, chapter 29, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
3 amended by adding section 13-2925, to read:

4 13-2925. Interfering with a religious service or religious
5 activity; exception; classification; definitions

6 A. A PERSON COMMITS INTERFERING WITH A RELIGIOUS SERVICE OR
7 RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY IF, WITHOUT LEGAL AUTHORITY, THE PERSON INTENTIONALLY
8 INTERFERES WITH A RELIGIOUS SERVICE OR RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY BY INTENTIONALLY
9 DOING EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING:

10 1. OBSTRUCTING, BLOCKING OR IMPEDING ANOTHER PERSON'S ABILITY TO
11 ENTER OR EXIT A PLACE OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

12 2. MAKING ANY PROTRACTED COMMOTION, UTTERANCE OR DISPLAY IN A PLACE
13 OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP THAT DISRUPTS A RELIGIOUS SERVICE OR RELIGIOUS
14 ACTIVITY.

15 B. THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING:

16 1. PEACEFUL PICKETING, PROTESTING OR OTHER EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITY.

17 2. A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, A FIRST RESPONDER OR ANY OTHER
18 AUTHORIZED PERSON WHO IS ACTING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE PERSON'S OFFICIAL
19 DUTIES.

20 C. INTERFERING WITH A RELIGIOUS SERVICE OR RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY IS A
21 CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR EXCEPT THAT IT IS A CLASS 6 FELONY IF ANY OF THE
22 FOLLOWING APPLIES:

23 1. THE PERSON HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY CONVICTED OF A VIOLATION OF THIS
24 SECTION.

25 2. THE PERSON USED FORCE, THREATS OF FORCE OR PHYSICAL INTIMIDATION
26 IN THE COMMISSION OF THE OFFENSE.

27 3. THE PERSON, WITH TWO OR MORE OTHER PERSONS ACTING TOGETHER,
28 COMMITS A VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 1 OF THIS SECTION.

29 E. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

30 1. "OBSTRUCTING, BLOCKING OR IMPEDING" MEANS TO RENDER PASSAGE
31 IMPASSABLE OR UNREASONABLY DIFFICULT OR HAZARDOUS.

32 2. "PHYSICAL INTIMIDATION" MEANS TO PLACE A PERSON IN REASONABLE
33 APPREHENSION OF PHYSICAL INJURY TO ONESELF OR ANOTHER PERSON.

34 3. "PLACE OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP" MEANS A PRIVATELY OWNED BUILDING,
35 STRUCTURE OR DESIGNATED LOCATION WHERE PEOPLE ASSEMBLE FOR A RELIGIOUS
36 SERVICE OR RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY.