

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 1644

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2002

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

AN ACT

To further the protection and recognition of veterans' memorials, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Memorial
5 Preservation and Recognition Act of 2002”.

1 **SEC. 2. CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR DESTRUCTION OF VET-**
2 **ERANS' MEMORIALS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 65 of title 18, United
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 **“§ 1369. Destruction of veterans’ memorials**

7 “(a) Whoever, in a circumstance described in sub-
8 section (b), willfully injures or destroys, or attempts to in-
9 jure or destroy, any structure, plaque, statue, or other
10 monument on public property commemorating the service
11 of any person or persons in the armed forces of the United
12 States shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more
13 than 10 years, or both.

14 “(b) A circumstance described in this subsection is
15 that—

16 “(1) in committing the offense described in sub-
17 section (a), the defendant travels or causes another
18 to travel in interstate or foreign commerce, or uses
19 the mail or an instrumentality of interstate or for-
20 eign commerce; or

21 “(2) the structure, plaque, statue, or other
22 monument described in subsection (a) is located on
23 property owned by, or under the jurisdiction of, the
24 Federal Government.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
2 at the beginning of chapter 65 of title 18, United States
3 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“1369. Destruction of veterans’ memorials.”.

4 **SEC. 3. HIGHWAY SIGNS RELATING TO VETERANS CEME-**
5 **TERIES.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the terms of any
7 agreement entered into by the Secretary of Transportation
8 and a State under section 109(d) or 402(a) of title 23,
9 United States Code, a veterans cemetery shall be treated
10 as a site for which a supplemental guide sign may be
11 placed on any Federal-aid highway.

12 (b) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a) shall apply to an
13 agreement entered into before, on, or after the date of the
14 enactment of this Act.

Passed the Senate May 22, 2002.

Attest:

JERI THOMSON,

Secretary.