

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 2679

AN ACT

To amend the Revised Statutes of the United States to prevent the use of the legal system in a manner that extorts money from State and local governments, and the Federal Government, and inhibits such governments' constitutional actions under the first, tenth, and fourteenth amendments.

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’ Memorials,
5 Boy Scouts, Public Seals, and Other Public Expressions
6 of Religion Protection Act of 2006”.

7 **SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS ON CERTAIN LAWSUITS AGAINST**
8 **STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS.**

9 (a) CIVIL ACTION FOR DEPRIVATION OF RIGHTS.—
10 Section 1979 of the Revised Statutes of the United States
11 (42 U.S.C. 1983) is amended—

12 (1) by inserting “(a)” before the first sentence;

13 and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(b) The remedies with respect to a claim under this
16 section are limited to injunctive and declaratory relief
17 where the deprivation consists of a violation of a prohibi-
18 tion in the Constitution against the establishment of reli-
19 gion, including, but not limited to, a violation resulting
20 from—

21 “(1) a veterans’ memorial’s containing religious
22 words or imagery;

23 “(2) a public building’s containing religious
24 words or imagery;

1 (b) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term
2 “a claim of injury consisting of the violation of a prohibi-
3 tion in the Constitution against the establishment of reli-
4 gion” includes, but is not limited to, a claim of injury re-
5 sulting from—

6 (1) a veterans’ memorial’s containing religious
7 words or imagery;

8 (2) a Federal building’s containing religious
9 words or imagery;

10 (3) the presence of religious words or imagery
11 in the official seal of the United States and in its
12 currency and official Pledge; or

13 (4) the chartering of Boy Scout units by com-
14 ponents of the Armed Forces of the United States
15 and by other public entities, and the Boy Scouts’
16 using Department of Defense and other public in-
17 stallations.

18 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

19 This Act and the amendments made by this Act take
20 effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and apply
21 to any case that—

22 (1) is pending on such date of enactment; or

1 (2) is commenced on or after such date of en-
2 actment.

 Passed the House of Representatives September 26,
2006.

Attest:

Clerk.

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