



LAWS OF ALASKA

2001

Source
CSHB 187(JUD)

Chapter No.
83

AN ACT

Relating to the destruction, desecration, and vandalism of cemeteries and graves.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

Approved by the Governor: July 3, 2001
Actual Effective Date: October 1, 2001

AN ACT

1 Relating to the destruction, desecration, and vandalism of cemeteries and graves.

2

3 * **Section 1.** AS 11.46.482(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) A person commits the crime of criminal mischief in the second degree if,
5 having no right to do so or any reasonable ground to believe the person has such a
6 right,

7 (1) with intent to damage property of another, the person damages
8 property of another in an amount of \$500 or more;

9 (2) the person tampers with an oil or gas pipeline or supporting facility
10 or an airplane or helicopter with reckless disregard for the risk of harm to or loss of the
11 property; [OR]

12 (3) the person recklessly creates a risk of damage in an amount
13 exceeding \$100,000 to property of another by the use of widely dangerous means; or
14 [.]

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1 (4) [REPEALED]

2 (5) [REPEALED]

3 **(6) the person knowingly**

4 **(A) defaces, damages, or desecrates a cemetery or the**
5 **contents of a cemetery or a tomb, grave, or memorial regardless of**
6 **whether the tomb, grave, or memorial is in a cemetery or whether the**
7 **cemetery, tomb, grave, or memorial appears to be abandoned, lost, or**
8 **neglected;**

9 **(B) removes human remains or associated burial artifacts**
10 **from a cemetery, tomb, grave, or memorial regardless of whether the**
11 **cemetery, tomb, grave, or memorial appears to be abandoned, lost, or**
12 **neglected.**

13 * Sec. 2. AS 11.46.482 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

14 (c) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under (a)(6) of this section that
15 the defendant, at the time of the offense, was

16 (1) an employee of the cemetery and was engaged in an authorized
17 activity on behalf of the cemetery; or

18 (2) authorized by law or state permit to engage in the conduct.

19 (d) In this section,

20 (1) "contents of a cemetery" includes anything that is designed or used
21 for the protection, security, or ornamentation of a cemetery and that is located within a
22 cemetery;

23 (2) "memorial" means a headstone, marker, gravestone, monument, or
24 other object designed or intended to mark a gravesite or to memorialize the death of a
25 person;

26 (3) "tomb" means a mausoleum, columbarium, or crypt, whether that
27 mausoleum, columbarium, or crypt is located above or below ground.

28 * Sec. 3. AS 41.35.200(c) is repealed.