



OREGON HOUSE REPUBLICANS

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HOUSE REPUBLICANS INTRODUCE FUNERAL CIVILITY ACT; GET WIDE BI-PARTISAN SUPPORT

Salem, Ore—Rep. Jim Weidner (R-Yamhill) along with colleague and fellow Chief Co-Sponsor Rep. Patrick Sheehan (R-Clackamas) introduced a bill today that will be an act calling for funeral civility. The Funeral Civility Act (HB 3241) already has thirty-eight Co-Sponsors in the House and with its bi-partisan popular support, is expected to continue gaining momentum on its way to the Oregon Senate.

The bill would prohibit picketing at a funeral service, burial service or other memorial service, engaging in activities that are disruptive of funeral service, burial service or memorial service within 300 feet of the property line of residence, cemetery, funeral home, church, synagogue or other establishment where service is conducted. It would provide a prohibition to activities within one hour before a service is conducted, during a service and within one hour after a service is conducted. In addition, it would be punishable by a maximum 30 days imprisonment, \$1,250 fine, or both.

“This bill will protect and acknowledge the solemn rights of family and friends to hold services for their loved ones without hindrance from outside agitators,” said Rep. Jim Weidner (R-Yamhill). “Now, those who are grieving know they are protected during their time of mourning and vulnerability.”

This bill was drafted to reclaim acceptable acts of expression within a modicum of social civility and respect for those who are being memorialized.

Rep. Patrick Sheehan (R-Clackamas) says “I’m excited to introduce this bill with widespread support from both sides of the aisle. We are ready to defend what is honorable.” Rep. Sheehan credits a local organization founder Becky Ginsbach of Estacada Area Support Our Troops Foundation for making this matter a priority.

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