

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 717**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Bruce J. Ayers*

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing a mandatory sentence for destruction, defacement or damage to burial tombs and grave markers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Bruce J. Ayers</i>	<i>1st Norfolk</i>	<i>1/17/2017</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 717**

---

---

By Mr. Ayers of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 717) of Bruce J. Ayers that provision be made for a minimum mandatory sentence for the willful destruction of burial tombs and grave markers. The Judiciary.

---

---

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1157 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—————  
**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
—————

An Act establishing a mandatory sentence for destruction, defacement or damage to burial tombs and grave markers.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Section 73 of Chapter 272 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “not”, as appearing in line 12, the  
3 following new text:—“less than one thousand dollars and not”.

4           SECTION 2. Section 73 of Chapter 272 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008  
5 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following text:—

6           “The sentence imposed under this section shall not be reduced to less than 6 months, nor  
7 suspended, nor shall any person convicted under this section be eligible for probation, parole or  
8 furlough or receive any deduction from his sentence for good conduct until he shall have served  
9 no less than 6 months of such sentence. Prosecutions commenced under this section shall neither

10 be continued without a finding nor placed on file. The provisions of section 87-seven of chapter  
11 276 shall not apply to a person charged with a violation of this section.”