

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend title 18, United States Code, to expand the prohibition on destruction of veterans' memorials to include other memorials and to establish mandatory minimum sentences for violations of that prohibition.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. COTTON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to expand the prohibition on destruction of veterans' memorials to include other memorials and to establish mandatory minimum sentences for violations of that prohibition.

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 [“_____ Act
5 of 2024”].]

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1369 of title 18, United
8 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

1 **“§ 1369. Destruction of memorials**

2 “(a) PROHIBITION.—It shall be unlawful for any per-
3 son, in a circumstance described in subsection (b), to will-
4 fully injure or destroy, or attempt to injure or destroy,
5 a structure, plaque, statue, or other monument on public
6 property.

7 “(b) CIRCUMSTANCES.—A circumstance described in
8 this subsection is that—

9 “(1) in committing the offense described in sub-
10 section (a), the defendant travels or causes another
11 to travel in interstate or foreign commerce, or uses
12 the mail or an instrumentality of interstate or for-
13 eign commerce; or

14 “(2) the structure, plaque, statue, or other
15 monument described in subsection (a) is located on
16 property owned by, or under the jurisdiction of, the
17 Federal Government.

18 “(c) PENALTIES.—Any person who violates sub-
19 section (a) shall be—

20 “(1) fined—

21 “(A) not less than the greater of—

22 “(i) \$1,000; or

23 “(ii) the amount of damage to the
24 structure, plaque, statue, or other monu-
25 ment described in subsection (a); and

1 “(B) not more than the appropriate max-
2 imum under this title; and

3 “(2) imprisoned—

4 “(A) not less than 5 years; and

5 “(B) not more than 10 years.”.

6 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—

7 The table of sections for chapter 65 of title 18, United
8 States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to
9 section 1369 and inserting the following:

“1369. Destruction of memorials.”.