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4 SYNOPSIS:

5 Under existing law, the crimes of riot,
6 harassment, and disorderly conduct are established and
7 a violation is punishable by law.

8 This bill would establish the crime of
9 disruption of a worship service and provide that the
10 crime is committed if, during a worship service that
11 has a scheduled starting time, an individual: (i)
12 enters upon the premises of a church building or church
13 property with the intent to disrupt the worship
14 service; and (ii) engages in a riot, disorderly
15 conduct, the harassment of a worship participant, or
16 the obstruction of the ingress or egress to the church
17 building or church property.

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20 A BILL

21 TO BE ENTITLED

22 AN ACT

23

24 Relating to crimes; to establish the crime of
25 disruption of a worship service; and to provide criminal
26 penalties for a violation.

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

28 Section 1. (a) As used in this section, the following



29 terms have the following meanings:

30 (1) CHURCH BUILDING. Any church building, mosque,
31 synagogue, or other religious real property.

32 (2) CHURCH PROPERTY. The area contiguous to a church
33 building which is used for ingress or egress to the church
34 building or any other religious purpose.

35 (3) DISORDERLY CONDUCT. The crime of disorderly conduct
36 pursuant to Section 13A-11-7, Code of Alabama 1975.

37 (4) HARASSMENT. The crime of harassment pursuant to
38 Section 13A-11-8(a), Code of Alabama 1975.

39 (5) RIOT. The crime of riot pursuant to Section
40 13A-11-3, Code of Alabama 1975.

41 (6) WORSHIP SERVICE. The assemblage of individuals for
42 religious worship.

43 (b) An individual commits the crime of disruption of a
44 worship service if, during a worship service that has a
45 scheduled starting time, the individual knowingly enters a
46 church building or church property with the intent to disrupt
47 the worship service and does any of the following:

48 (1) Engages in a riot.

49 (2) Engages in disorderly conduct.

50 (3) Engages in harassment of any individual participant
51 of the worship service.

52 (4) Obstructs the ingress or egress to the church
53 building or church property.

54 (c) An individual who violates this section shall be
55 punished as follows:

56 (1) On a first violation, the individual shall be



57 guilty of a Class C felony.

58 (2) On a second or subsequent violation, the individual
59 shall be guilty of a Class C felony and shall serve a
60 mandatory minimum of five years imprisonment.

61 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
62 1, 2026.