

# 1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 121

February 11, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives CARPENTER, FREESE, MUSSER, PLALE, BOYLE, RYBA, HASENOHRL, RILEY, SINICKI, URBAN, GRONEMUS and PORTER, cosponsored by Senators BURKE, ROESSLER, BAUMGART and DARLING. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice.

1     **AN ACT** *to amend* 943.012 (intro.) of the statutes; **relating to:** criminal damage  
2           to certain property and providing a penalty.

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***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

Current law makes it a crime to damage another person's property without that person's consent, with the penalty for the crime depending on the type or value of the property that is damaged. If a person who knows the character of the property damages religious property, cemetery property, property of a school or community center publicly identified with a particular religious, racial, ethnic or other group or personal property of particular significance to a religious, racial, ethnic or other group, he or she may be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than two years if the offense occurs before December 31, 1999, or for not more than five years if the offense occurs on or after December 31, 1999. This bill increases the maximum imprisonment for this crime to five years for offenses committed before December 31, 1999, and to ten years for offenses committed on or after December 31, 1999. The bill does not change the maximum fine for the crime.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

3           **SECTION 1.** 943.012 (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:  
4           **943.012 Criminal damage to or graffiti on religious and other**  
5     **property.** (intro.) Whoever intentionally causes damage to, intentionally marks,

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1 draws or writes with ink or another substance on or intentionally etches into any  
2 physical property of another, without the person's consent and with knowledge of the  
3 character of the property, is guilty of a Class E D felony if the property consists of one  
4 or more of the following:

5 **SECTION 2. Initial applicability.**

6 (1) This act applies to offenses occurring on or after the effective date of this  
7 subsection.

8 (END)