



2026 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1124

Introduced by: **Representative** Schaeffbauer

1 **An Act to establish the crime of trespass upon a place of worship, provide a penalty**
2 **therefor, and declare an emergency.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 22-35:**

5 No person may enter or remain on the premises of any place of worship, or within
6 one thousand feet of any place of worship, with the intent to disrupt worship services at
7 the place of worship, menace or harass congregants or employees of the place of worship,
8 or for the purpose of political intimidation of or the incitement of fear of violence in those
9 attending the place of worship. A violation of this section is a Class 5 felony.

10 For purposes of this section, "place of worship" means a structure where people
11 regularly assemble for worship, ceremonies, rituals, and education relating to a particular
12 form or religious belief, and which a reasonable person would conclude is a place of
13 worship by reason of design, signs, or architectural or other features.

14 **Section 2. Whereas, this Act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace,**
15 **health, or safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Act shall be in full force**
16 **and effect from and after its passage and approval.**