

2023 -- S 0889

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- TRESPASS AND VANDALISM

Introduced By: Senators Gu, DiMario, McKenney, Valverde, and Lauria

Date Introduced: March 30, 2023

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-44-24 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-44 entitled "Trespass
2 and Vandalism" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **11-44-24. Blocking or obstructing public rights-of-way to water.**

4 Every person who shall obstruct or block or cause any obstruction of any public rights-of-
5 way to water areas of the state shall be imprisoned not exceeding one year or be fined not exceeding
6 five hundred dollars (\$500). For the purposes of this section, an obstruction can include signage
7 that deters the public from using a public right-of-way. An obstruction based on signage alone shall
8 be subject to a civil penalty not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500).

9 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would define an obstruction to a public right-of-way to include signage that deters
2 the public from using a public right-of-way and subject such violation to a fine not to exceed five
3 hundred dollars (\$500).

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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