

**LOCAL LAWS
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
FOR THE YEAR 2021**

No. 68

Introduced by Council Members Cabrera, Chin, Yeger, Holden, Vallone, Gjonaj, Riley, Feliz, Salamanca, Louis, Rosenthal, Cornegy, Dinowitz, Treyger, Gibson, Barron and Gennaro.

A LOCAL LAW

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to increasing penalties for damaging houses of religious worship

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Section 10-116 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as amended by local law number 102 for the year 2005, is amended to read as follows:

§ 10-116. Damaging houses of religious worship or religious articles therein prohibited. Any person who [wilfully] *willfully* and without authority breaks, defaces or otherwise damages any house of religious worship or any portion thereof, or any appurtenances thereto, including religious figures or religious monuments, or any book, scroll, ark, furniture, ornaments, musical instrument, article of silver or plated ware, or any other chattel contained therein for use in connection with religious worship, or any person who knowingly aids, abets, conceals or in any way assists any such person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment of not more than one year or by a fine of not more than [two thousand five hundred dollars] \$2,500 nor less than [five hundred dollars] \$1,000, or both. In addition, any person violating this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than [ten thousand dollars] \$10,000 and not more than [twenty-five thousand dollars] \$25,000. Such civil penalty shall be in addition to any criminal

penalty or sanction that may be imposed, and such civil penalty shall not limit or preclude any cause of action available to any person or entity aggrieved by any of the acts prohibited by this section.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 60 days after it becomes law.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, s.s.:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a local law of The City of New York, passed by the Council on May 12, 2021 and returned unsigned by the Mayor on June 14, 2021.

MICHAEL M. McSWEENEY, City Clerk, Clerk of the Council.

CERTIFICATION OF CORPORATION COUNSEL

I hereby certify that the form of the enclosed local law (Local Law No. 68 of 2021, Council Int. No. 2108-A of 2020 to be filed with the Secretary of State contains the correct text of the local law passed by the New York City Council, presented to the Mayor and neither approved nor disapproved within thirty days thereafter.

STEPHEN LOUIS, Acting Corporation Counsel.