

[Religious Meetings]

[470.

Whosoever shall wilfully interrupt or disturb any religious congregation, society or meeting, by blowing horns, exploding firearms, horse racing, noisy, riotous or disorderly conduct or conversation shall, on conviction be fined not less than one dollar nor more than twenty dollars, and may be committed to jail pursuant to the provisions of Article 38, § 4.]

594B-2.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) "Citation" means a written charging document, other than an indictment, an information, or a statement of charges, alleging that a defendant has committed an offense, issued to a defendant by a police officer.

(3) "Police officer" has the meaning stated in § 594B of this subheading.

(b) Subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, in addition to any other provision of law or rule allowing an offense to be charged by citation, the following offenses may be charged by citation:

(1) Malicious destruction of property under § 111(b) of this article, where the amount of damage to the property is less than \$300;

[(2) Disturbing the peace under § 122 of this article;

(3) Disorderly conduct under § 123 of this article; or]

(2) **DISTURBING THE PEACE AND DISORDERLY CONDUCT UNDER § 121 OF THIS ARTICLE; OR**

[(4)] (3) Misdemeanor theft, as defined under § 342(f)(2) of this article.

(c) A police officer may charge a defendant with an offense specified under subsection (b) of this section by citation if:

(1) The defendant furnishes satisfactory evidence of identity; and

(2) The police officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the defendant will comply with the requirements of the citation.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Committee Notes contained in this Act are not law.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1998.

May 21, 1998

The Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr.
Speaker of the House