



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1054

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 23, 2015

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Governor Baker Signs Smola's Gravestone Bill

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) attended a bill signing ceremony at the State House with Governor Charlie Baker on Monday, November 23. The Governor signed H1600 - *An Act providing further penalties for intentional loss or damage to a gravestone or other grave marker*. Smola said that the motivating factor to file this legislation came as the result of discussions with veterans who called attention to the desecration of veterans' graves.

“It was a tremendous honor to join Governor Baker today,” said Representative Smola. “I am very proud of this bill and want to thank my colleagues in the Legislature for their support.”

H1600 requires that anyone convicted of desecrating a gravestone must pay restitution to the property owner to cover the cost of restoring the grave.

For additional information please contact Representative Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617)722-2100.

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