



182662

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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The Committee on Judiciary (Boyd) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Section 817.49, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
read:

817.49 False reports of commission of crimes; penalty.—

(1) A person who ~~whoever~~ willfully imparts, conveys, or  
causes to be imparted or conveyed to a ~~any~~ law enforcement  
officer false information or reports concerning the alleged  
commission of any crime under the laws of this state, knowing



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12 such information or report to be false, when in that no such  
13 crime has had actually been committed, commits shall upon  
14 conviction thereof be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first  
15 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

16 (2) (a) As used in this subsection, the term "public safety  
17 agency" means a law enforcement agency, a professional or  
18 volunteer fire department, an emergency medical service, an  
19 ambulance service, or any other public entity that provides  
20 first responder services to respond to crimes, to assist victims  
21 of crimes, or to apprehend offenders.

22 (b) In addition to the criminal penalty for violating  
23 subsection (1), if the offense results in:

24 1. A response by a federal, a state, a district, a  
25 municipal, or any other public safety agency to address the  
26 reported crime, and the combined cost incurred by all responding  
27 agencies exceeds \$1,000, the person may be sentenced to pay a  
28 fine of up to \$5,000.

29 2. Great bodily harm, permanent disfigurement, or permanent  
30 disability as a proximate result of lawful conduct arising out  
31 of a response, the person may be sentenced to pay a fine of up  
32 to \$7,500.

33 3. Death as a proximate result of lawful conduct arising  
34 out of a response, the person may be sentenced to pay a fine of  
35 up to \$10,000.

36 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

37  
38 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

39 And the title is amended as follows:

40 Delete everything before the enacting clause



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41 and insert:

42                                   A bill to be entitled  
43           An act relating to false reports of crimes; amending  
44           s. 817.49, F.S.; defining the term "public safety  
45           agency"; authorizing enhanced fines for the willful  
46           making of false reports of crimes under certain  
47           circumstances; providing an effective date.