

## 1 SENATE BILL NO. 240

2 INTRODUCED BY T. MANZELLA, M. BINKLEY, N. DURAM, F. GARNER, B. USHER

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING LAWS REGARDING PENALTIES FOR FALSELY  
 5 REPORTING CRIMES; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR WHEN THE CRIME THAT IS FALSELY REPORTED  
 6 IS A MISDEMEANOR AND MORE SERIOUS PENALTIES FOR FALSELY REPORTING FELONIES; AND  
 7 AMENDING SECTION 45-7-205, MCA."

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9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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11 **Section 1.** Section 45-7-205, MCA, is amended to read:

12 **"45-7-205. False reports to ~~law enforcement authorities~~ peace officers.** (1) A person commits an  
 13 offense under this section if the person knowingly:

14 (a) gives false information to any ~~law enforcement~~ peace officer with the purpose to implicate another;

15 (b) reports to ~~law enforcement authorities~~ a peace officer an offense or other incident within ~~their~~ the  
 16 officer's concern knowing that it did not occur; or

17 (c) pretends to furnish ~~law enforcement authorities~~ a peace officer with information relating to an  
 18 offense or incident when the person knows that the person has no information relating to the offense or  
 19 incident.

20 (2) A person convicted under this section shall ~~be fined not to exceed \$500 or be imprisoned in the~~  
 21 ~~county jail for any term not to exceed 6 months, or both;~~

22 (a) if the crime falsely reported was a misdemeanor, be sentenced to not more than 6 months in the  
 23 county jail or fined not more than \$500, or both; or

24 (b) if the crime falsely reported was a felony, be sentenced to not more than 4 years in the state  
 25 prison or fined not more than \$10,000, or both."

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