



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

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

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

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

- (a) gives false information to any ~~law enforcement~~ peace officer with the purpose to implicate another;
- (b) reports to ~~law enforcement authorities~~ a peace officer an offense or other incident within ~~their~~ the officer's concern knowing that it did not occur; or
- (c) pretends to furnish ~~law enforcement authorities~~ a peace officer with information relating to an offense or incident when the person knows that the person has no information relating to the offense or incident.

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

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

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

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,  
SB 240, originated in the Senate.

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Secretary of the Senate

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President of the Senate

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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Speaker of the House

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

SENATE BILL NO. 240

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

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