

2023 -- H 5903

LC002180

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- PUBLIC UTILITIES

Introduced By: Representatives Fogarty, Tanzi, Donovan, Shallcross Smith, Boylan,  
Handy, Hull, Caldwell, Henries, and Cortvriend

Date Introduced: March 01, 2023

Referred To: House Judiciary

(Attorney General)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-35-18 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-35 entitled "Public  
2 Utilities" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **11-35-18. Bomb threats and similar false reports.**

4 Whoever, knowing the report to be false, transmits or causes to be transmitted to any person  
5 by telephone or other means a communication falsely reporting, warning, or threatening the  
6 ~~location~~ existence of any explosive or other dangerous substance or contrivance, or a shooting or  
7 other dangerous event or happening, at a location causing terror, anxiety, unrest, fear, or personal  
8 discomfort by that false report, warning, or threat to any person or group of persons, or prompting  
9 an evacuation or lockdown of a location or other law enforcement response, shall be guilty of a  
10 felony and shall be punished by imprisonment at the adult correctional institutions for not more  
11 than ten (10) years, or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both fine and  
12 imprisonment.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- PUBLIC UTILITIES

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1           This act would expand the crime of false reporting to include shootings or other dangerous  
2 events.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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