

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: Senators Tikoian, Euer, DiMario, F. Lombardi, Ciccone, Britto, Burke,
and McKenney

Date Introduced: March 22, 2023

Referred To: Senate 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.

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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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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