

SENATE, No. 707

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator DAWN MARIE ADDIEGO

District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Provides enhanced penalties for making a false report to law enforcement authorities in certain circumstances.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



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BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

N.J.S.2C:28-4. a.Falsely incriminating another. (1) A person who knowingly gives or causes to be given false information to any law enforcement officer with purpose to implicate another commits a crime of the fourth degree. (2) A person who knowingly gives or causes to be given false information or a description of a fictitious person to any law enforcement officer with purpose to implicate another because of race, color, religion, sexual orientation or ethnicity commits a crime of the third degree.

(1) Reports or causes to be reported to law enforcement authorities an offense or other incident within their concern knowing that it did not occur; or

c. A person who violates subsection b. of this section is guilty of a crime of the third degree if the person acted with purpose to implicate another because of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity.

d. In addition to any other fine, fee, or assessment imposed, any person convicted of an offense under this section shall be ordered to reimburse the governing body of the municipality for the costs incurred in investigating the false information or the fictitious report.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

This bill would upgrade falsely incriminating another person from a crime of the fourth degree to a crime of the third degree if the person knowingly gives false information with the purpose to implicate another because of race, color, religion, sexual orientation or ethnicity.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

S707 ADDIEGO

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1 The bill would also upgrade the offense of giving a fictitious
2 report to a law enforcement officer from a disorderly persons
3 offense to a crime of the fourth degree. If the fictitious report is
4 given with the purpose to implicate another because of race, color,
5 religion, sexual orientation or ethnicity the offense would be
6 increased to a crime of the third degree.

7 A crime of the fourth degree is punishable by a term of
8 imprisonment of up to 18 months or a fine of up to \$10,000, or
9 both. A crime of the third degree is punishable by a term of
10 imprisonment of three to five years or a fine of up to \$15,000, or
11 both.

12 In addition, the bill provides that any person convicted of either
13 offense would be required to reimburse the municipality for any
14 costs incurred in investigating the false information or fictitious
15 report.