

Senate Engrossed

false reporting; public alarm; classification.

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2024

# SENATE BILL 1144

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 13-2907, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO OFFENSES  
AGAINST PUBLIC ORDER.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 13-2907, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 13-2907. False reporting; emergency response costs;  
5 classification; definitions

6 A. A person commits false reporting by initiating or circulating a  
7 report of a bombing, fire, offense or other emergency knowing that such  
8 report is false and intending:

9 1. That it will cause action of any sort by an official or  
10 volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies; or

11 2. That it will place a person in fear of imminent serious physical  
12 injury; or

13 3. That it will prevent or interrupt the occupation of any  
14 building, room, place of assembly, public place or means of  
15 transportation.

16 B. A PERSON COMMITS FALSE REPORTING BY INITIATING A REPORT OF A  
17 SERIOUS OFFENSE KNOWING THAT SUCH REPORT IS FALSE AND INTENDING THAT IT  
18 WILL CAUSE AN EMERGENCY RESPONSE.

19 ~~B.~~ C. A person who commits a violation of this section that  
20 results in an emergency response or investigation of false reporting and  
21 who is convicted of a violation of this section is liable for the expenses  
22 that are incurred incident to the emergency response or the investigation  
23 of the commission of false reporting, except that if the person is a  
24 juvenile who is adjudicated delinquent of a violation of this section, the  
25 court may order the juvenile to pay the expenses incurred under this  
26 subsection as restitution. The expenses are a debt of the person. The  
27 public agency, for profit entity or not-for-profit entity that incurred  
28 the expenses may collect the debt proportionally. The liability that is  
29 imposed under this subsection is in addition to any other liability that  
30 may be imposed.

31 ~~C.~~ D. False reporting PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION IS  
32 A CLASS 6 FELONY. FALSE REPORTING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS  
33 SECTION is a class 1 misdemeanor, except that a second or subsequent  
34 violation is a class 6 felony.

35 ~~D.~~ E. For the purposes of this section:

36 1. "EMERGENCY RESPONSE" MEANS AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE BY A LAW  
37 ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

38 ~~E.~~ 2. "Expenses":

39 (a) Means any reasonable costs that are directly incurred by a  
40 public agency, for profit entity or not-for-profit entity that makes an  
41 appropriate emergency response to an incident or an investigation of the  
42 commission of false reporting. ~~Expenses~~

43 (b) Includes the costs of providing police, fire fighting, rescue  
44 and emergency medical services at the scene of an incident and the  
45 salaries of the persons who respond to the incident. ~~Expenses~~

1           (c) Does not include any charges that are assessed by an ambulance  
2 service that is regulated pursuant to title 36, chapter 21.1, article 2.  
3           ~~2.~~ 3. "Public agency" means THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, this state,  
4 any city, county, municipal corporation or district, any Arizona federally  
5 recognized Native American tribe or any other public authority that is  
6 located in whole or in part in this state and that provides police, fire  
7 fighting, medical or other emergency services.  
8           4. "SERIOUS OFFENSE" HAS THE SAME MEANING PRESCRIBED IN SECTION  
9 13-706.