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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1404**

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled September 8, 2016

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-212 of the Code of Virginia, relating to malicious activation of fire alarms; penalty.*

Patrons—Cole (By Request), Edmunds, Fariss and Levine

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 18.2-212 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 18.2-212. Calling or summoning emergency medical services vehicle or firefighting apparatus without just cause; maliciously activating fire alarms; venue.**

A. Any person who without just cause therefor calls or summons, by telephone or otherwise, any emergency medical services vehicle or firefighting apparatus, or any person who maliciously activates a manual or automatic fire alarm in any building used for public assembly or for other public use, including, but not limited to, schools, theaters, stores, office buildings, shopping centers and malls, coliseums, and arenas, regardless of whether an emergency medical services vehicle or fire apparatus responds or not, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

B. A violation of this section may be prosecuted either in the jurisdiction from which the call or summons was made or in the jurisdiction where the call or summons was received.

INTRODUCED

HB1404