

23102628D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1572

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 6, 2023

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 18.2-426 and 18.2-428 of the Code of Virginia, relating to emergency response; false information by device; penalty.

Patron—Walker

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 18.2-426 and 18.2-428 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-426. "Emergency call," "emergency personnel," and "emergency response" defined.

As used in this article:

"Emergency call" means a call to report a fire or summon police, or for emergency medical services, in a situation where human life or property is in jeopardy and the prompt summoning of aid is essential.

"Emergency personnel" means any persons, paid or volunteer, who receive calls for dispatch of police, fire, or emergency medical services personnel, and includes law-enforcement officers, firefighters, including special forest wardens designated pursuant to § 10.1-1135, and emergency medical services personnel.

"Emergency response" means a response by law-enforcement officers, firefighters, or emergency medical personnel to a situation where human life or property is in jeopardy and the prompt summoning of aid is essential.

§ 18.2-428. Giving certain false information to another by telephone or other device; penalty.

If any person maliciously advises or informs another over any telephone or other device by any means, or causes another to do the same, in this the Commonwealth of the death of, accident to, injury to, illness of, or disappearance of, or imminent threat to the safety of some third party that results in an emergency response, knowing the same to be false, he shall be is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

INTRODUCED

HB1572