

2023 SESSION

INTRODUCED

23100630D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1590

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 6, 2023

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-429 of the Code of Virginia, relating to causing a telephone, digital pager, or other device to alert with intent to annoy; emergency communications; penalty.*

Patron—Sullivan

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-429 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-429. Causing a telephone, digital pager, or other device to ring or alert with the intent to annoy; emergency communications; penalties.

A. Any person who, with or without intent to communicate but with intent to annoy any other person, causes any telephone or digital pager *or other device*, not his own, to ring or to otherwise signal *or alert*, and any person who permits or condones the use of any telephone *or other device* under his control for such purpose, is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. A second or subsequent conviction under this subsection is punishable as a Class 2 misdemeanor if such prior conviction occurred before the date of the offense charged.

B. Any person who, with or without intent to ~~converse~~, *communicate* but with intent to annoy, harass, hinder, or delay emergency personnel in the performance of their duties as such, causes a telephone to ring *or other device to alert*, which is owned or leased for the purpose of receiving ~~emergency calls~~ *communications* by a public or private entity providing fire, police, or emergency medical services, and any person who knowingly permits the use of a telephone *or other device* under his control for such purpose, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

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