

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REREVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the Second House*

LLS NO. 23-0907.01 Alana Rosen x2606

**SENATE BILL 23-249**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Bridges and Van Winkle**, Buckner, Exum, Fenberg, Ginal, Hansen, Hinrichsen, Kirkmeyer, Liston, Moreno, Mullica, Pelton B., Pelton R., Priola, Roberts, Smallwood, Will, Winter F., Zenzinger

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**McLachlan and Evans**, Armagost, Bird, Bockenfeld, Catlin, Frizell, Lieder, Lukens, Michaelson Jenet, Taggart, Weinberg, Winter T., Young

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**Senate Committees**  
Judiciary

**House Committees**  
Education

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING FALSE REPORTING OF AN EMERGENCY.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill adds that the false reporting of a mass shooting or active shooter in a public or private place or vehicle that transports people or property is a class 6 felony.

The bill specifies that false reporting of an emergency is a class 1 misdemeanor if the threat causes the occupants of a building, place of assembly, or facility to be issued a shelter-in-place order, or the threat results in the initiation of a standard response protocol in response to the false report.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.*  
*Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
May 1, 2023

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 29, 2023

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 13, 2023

SENATE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
April 12, 2023

The bill adds to the "Victim Rights Act" that a crime includes the false reporting of an emergency that is bias motivated.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-8-101, **amend** the  
3 introductory portion; and **add** (4) as follows:

4 **18-8-101. Definitions.** As used in this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 8, unless  
5 the context otherwise requires:

6 (4) "SHELTER-IN-PLACE ORDER" MEANS AN OFFICIAL ORDER OR  
7 DIRECTION FROM GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO THE OCCUPANTS OF A  
8 BUILDING TO SEEK SHELTER FROM AN EXTERNAL THREAT IN THE BUILDING  
9 OR A SAFE STRUCTURE.

10 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 18-8-110 as  
11 follows:

12 **18-8-110. False report of explosives, weapons, or harmful**  
13 **substances.** (1) Any person who reports to any other person that a bomb  
14 or other explosive, any chemical or biological agent, any poison or  
15 weapon, or any harmful radioactive substance has been placed in any  
16 public or private place or vehicle designed for the transportation of  
17 persons or property, knowing that the report is false, commits a class 6  
18 felony.

19 (2) ANY PERSON WHO REPORTS TO ANY OTHER PERSON THAT  
20 THERE IS A MASS SHOOTING OR AN ACTIVE SHOOTER IN A PUBLIC OR  
21 PRIVATE PLACE OR VEHICLE DESIGNED FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF  
22 PERSONS OR PROPERTY, KNOWING THAT THE REPORT IS FALSE, CAUSING  
23 THE OCCUPANTS OF A BUILDING, PLACE OF ASSEMBLY, OR FACILITY OF  
24 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TO BE EVACUATED OR TO BE ISSUED A  
25 SHELTER-IN-PLACE ORDER; CAUSING ANY DISRUPTIONS OR IMPACTS TO

1     REGULAR ACTIVITIES; OR RESULTING IN THE INITIATION OF A STANDARD  
2     RESPONSE PROTOCOL IN RESPONSE TO THE FALSE REPORT, COMMITS A  
3     CLASS 6 FELONY.

4             **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-8-111, **amend**  
5     (2)(b)(II)(A) as follows:

6             **18-8-111. False reporting to authorities - false reporting of**  
7     **emergency - definition.** (2) (b) (II) False reporting of an emergency is  
8     a class 1 misdemeanor, if:

9             (A) The threat causes the occupants of a building, place of  
10     assembly, or facility of public transportation to be evacuated or otherwise  
11     displaced TO BE ISSUED A SHELTER-IN-PLACE ORDER, THE THREAT CAUSES  
12     ANY DISRUPTIONS OR IMPACTS TO REGULAR ACTIVITIES, OR THE THREAT  
13     RESULTS IN THE INITIATION OF A STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL IN  
14     RESPONSE TO THE FALSE REPORT; or

15             **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-4.1-302, **add**  
16     (1)(cc.7) as follows:

17             **24-4.1-302. Definitions.** As used in this part 3, and for no other  
18     purpose, including the expansion of the rights of any defendant:

19             (1) "Crime" means any of the following offenses, acts, and  
20     violations as defined by the statutes of the state of Colorado, whether  
21     committed by an adult or a juvenile:

22             (cc.7) FALSE REPORTING OF AN EMERGENCY IN VIOLATION OF  
23     SECTION 18-8-111 THAT IS A BIAS-MOTIVATED CRIME AS DESCRIBED IN  
24     SECTION 18-9-121 (2);

25             **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
26     determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
27     preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.