STATE OF NEW YORK

9185

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

October 17, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. ZACCARO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to falsely reporting an incident in the third degree

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 240.50 of the penal law, as amended by chapter 276 of the laws of 1973, the opening paragraph and subdivision 4 as amended by section 1 of part G of chapter 501 of the laws of 2012, subdivisions 1 and 2 as amended by chapter 146 of the laws of 1979, subdivision 3 as amended by chapter 302 of the laws of 2001, and the closing paragraph as amended by chapter 301 of the laws of 2001, is amended to read as follows:

§ 240.50 Falsely reporting an incident in the third degree.

A person is guilty of falsely reporting an incident in the third degree when, knowing the information reported, conveyed or circulated to be false or baseless, [~~he or she~~] **such person**:

1. Initiates or circulates a false report or warning**, including using artificial intelligence or generative artificial intelligence as defined by section seventeen hundred of the general business law,** of an alleged occurrence or impending occurrence of a crime, catastrophe or emergency under circumstances in which it is not unlikely that public alarm or inconvenience will result; or

2. Reports, by word or action **including using artificial intelligence or generative artificial intelligence as defined by section seventeen hundred of the general business law**, to an official or quasi-official agency or organization having the function of dealing with emergencies involving danger to life or property, an alleged occurrence or impending occurrence of a catastrophe or emergency which did not in fact occur or does not in fact exist; or

EXPLANATION--Matter in ***italics*** (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD13942-01-5

3. Gratuitously reports to a law enforcement officer or agency, **including using artificial intelligence or generative artificial intelligence as defined by section seventeen hundred of the general business law,** (a) the alleged occurrence of an offense or incident which did not in fact occur; or (b) an allegedly impending occurrence of an offense or incident which in fact is not about to occur; or (c) false information relating to an actual offense or incident or to the alleged implication of some person therein; or

4. Reports, by word or action **including using artificial intelligence or generative artificial intelligence as defined by section seventeen hundred of the general business law**, an alleged occurrence or condition of child abuse or maltreatment or abuse or neglect of a vulnerable person which did not in fact occur or exist to:

(a) the statewide central register of child abuse and maltreatment, as defined in title six of article six of the social services law or the vulnerable persons' central register as defined in article eleven of such law, or

(b) any person required to report cases of suspected child abuse or maltreatment pursuant to subdivision one of section four hundred thirteen of the social services law or to report cases of suspected abuse or neglect of a vulnerable person pursuant to section four hundred ninety-one of such law, knowing that the person is required to report such cases, and with the intent that such an alleged occurrence be reported to the statewide central register or vulnerable persons' central register.

Falsely reporting an incident in the third degree is a class A misdemeanor.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.