

By: Senator(s) Mettetal, Hamilton, Thames, Robertson, Moffatt, Dickerson, Posey, Jordan (24th), Stogner, Hawks, Minor, Carter, Tollison, Browning, Jordan (18th), Johnson (19th), Hall, Rayborn, Woodfield, White (5th), Burton

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2419

1 AN ACT TO CREATE SECTION 97-35-47, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO CRIMINALIZE THE FALSE REPORTING OF A CRIME; AND FOR RELATED
3 PURPOSES.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

5 SECTION 1. The following section shall be codified as

6 Section 97-35-47, Mississippi Code of 1972:

7 97-35-47. It shall be unlawful for any person to report a
8 crime or any element of a crime to any law enforcement or any
9 officer of any court, by any means, knowing that such report is
10 false. A violation of this section shall be punishable by
11 imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed one (1) year or by
12 fine not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or both, where
13 the falsely reported crime would have been a misdemeanor. Where
14 the falsely reported crime would have been a felony, a violation
15 of this section shall be a felony punishable by imprisonment in
16 the state penitentiary for not more than five (5) years, or by
17 fine not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both. In
18 addition to any fine and imprisonment, and upon proper showing
19 made to the court, the defendant shall be ordered to pay as
20 restitution to the law enforcement agency reimbursement for any
21 reasonable costs directly related to the investigation of the
22 falsely reported crime and the prosecution of any person convicted
23 under this section.

24 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
25 and after July 1, 1999.