

Senate Bill 225

By: Senators Miller of the 49th, Bethel of the 54th, Crosby of the 13th, Cowsert of the 46th, McKoon of the 29th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to obstruction of public administration and related criminal offenses, so as to provide
3 for a new offense of transmitting a false report of a crime; to provide for penalties; to provide
4 for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting
5 laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 obstruction of public administration and related criminal offenses, is amended by adding a
10 new Code section to read as follows:

11 "16-10-26.1.

12 A person who knowingly and intentionally sends a false claim by means of a written,
13 electronic, or other transmission, through any medium, that he or she or another person has
14 committed a serious violent felony, as such term is defined in Code Section 16-10-6.1, and
15 which false claim causes a law enforcement agency or official to initiate an investigation
16 to determine whether such violent felony has been committed by the person or persons
17 claimed to have committed such crime, shall be guilty of the felony offense of transmitting
18 a false report of a crime, and upon conviction therefore, shall be punished by imprisonment
19 of not less than one nor more than five years, or a fine of not more than \$10,000.00, or
20 both. In addition, the court shall impose restitution against such offender to be paid to the
21 investigating law enforcement agency or agencies in an amount proven in any hearing on
22 the matter of restitution to reimburse such agency or agencies for the costs of investigating
23 the falsely reported crime."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2011, and shall apply to offenses committed on
26 or after such date.

27 **SECTION 3.**

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.