**An Act To Create the Crime of Hate Crime False Public Alarm or Report**

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec.** **1. 17-A MRSA §509-A** is enacted to read:

**§****509-A.** **Hate crime false public alarm or report**

**1.**  A person is guilty of hate crime false public alarm or report if:

A. The person, motivated by or because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, religious practice, disability or origin of any person, gives or causes to be given information that the person knows or should reasonably know to be false concerning an emergency to any emergency responder, government agency or public utility involving danger to life or property with the intent of inducing the responder, agency or utility to respond; or

B. The person, motivated by or because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, religious practice, disability or national origin of any person, gives or causes to be given false information that the person knows or should reasonably know to be false to a law enforcement officer with the intent of inducing the belief in the law enforcement officer in the law enforcement officer that a crime has been committed.

**2.**  Hate crime false public alarm or report is a Class C crime.

**SUMMARY**

This bill creates the Class C crime of hate crime false public alarm or report in which a person gives or causes to be given information the person, motivated by or because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, religious practice, disability or origin of any person, knows or should reasonably know is false to an emergency responder, government agency or utility with the intent of inducing the responder, agency or utility to respond or to a law enforcement officer with the intent to cause the belief in the law enforcement officer that a crime has been committed.