

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Lying to peace officers; falsely reporting police misconduct.

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Overview

This bill expands current law regarding false reports to peace officers.

Section

- 1** **False reporting.** Establishes a crime for providing false information to an on-duty peace officer regarding the conduct of others. The crime applies if the person knew the information was false and intended the officer to act in reliance upon it. Under current law in Minnesota, it is illegal to falsely report *a crime* to a law enforcement officer. Under another statute it is also illegal to give a false name or date of birth to a peace officer.
- 2** **Reporting police misconduct.** (a) Establishes a crime for falsely reporting police misconduct if the person knows the allegation is false. It is a misdemeanor if the reported act is not criminal in nature. It is a gross misdemeanor if the reported act is criminal in nature.

(b) Requires restitution of expenses incurred in the investigation of the false allegation. A court may waive restitution if it makes a written finding that restitution is inappropriate under the circumstances.